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24 PAGES 150 FILS

OPEC has new quota agreement

Production ceiling to be raised by 1 million BPD

VIENNA, June 7. (Agencies): OPEC reached tentative agreement today setting new oil output quotas, Venezuelan Oil Minister Celestino Armas told reporters.

He gave no details but other ministers had said the compromise deal would probably set a ceiling on total OPEC output at 19.5 million barrels daily from July, up one million from now.

"Yes, of course," Armas said when asked if OPEC talks here,

earlier stymied over competing demands to sell more oil, had clinched a deal to support oil prices.

A Saudi delegate said the deal was for a ceiling of 19.5 million barrels daily.

Venezuela's Armas said all 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries would sign the agreement.

Earlier there had been doubt whether Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, which had

demanded much bigger increases in their quotas than today's deal gives them, would dissent.

Earlier, Kuwait's Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa said Kuwait sticks to its demand for quota increase.

Oil traders say that the extent of quota violations in coming months will determine prices, up 50 per cent this year because of better — but not total — OPEC supply discipline.

The new agreement, to run

from July 1 to the end of the year, takes account of rising world oil demand to set slight increases in individual quotas for the 13 members.

The meeting had been in deadlock since Sunday over Kuwait's demand for a much greater, 30 per cent rise in its quota.

The UAE wished for similar special treatment, while a majority held out for a straight pro rata increase on all individual

quotas.

Details of the compromise accord were expected after a plenary session of the conference.

Delegates said Sheikh Ali still did not seem to be backing down on his insistence that his country deserves a rise of 30 per cent in its quota.

They said that he and Mana Said Al Oteiba of the UAE would

(Continued on Page 11, Col. 2)

NEWSWATCH

Indo-Pak talks

ISLAMABAD, June 7. (AP): India and Pakistan will hold high-level talks later this month, with defence issues expected to dominate the agenda, a Foreign Ministry spokesman announced.

Pakistan is concerned about what it views as a weapons buildup by India. The issue is expected to dominate the meeting of defence secretaries scheduled June 14-17 in Islamabad.

On May 22 and again yesterday India test-fired intermediate-and-short range missiles with ranges capable of striking Pakistani territory.

"Pakistan has proposed to India to consider the question of a reduction in defence expenditures which would (allow) lower levels of weaponry but undiminished security," the spokesman said.

India has not replied.

Risk reduced

AMSTERDAM, June 7. (Reuters): Eating yoghurt helps prevent breast cancer, according to a Dutch study.

Scientists at the private Dutch Institute for Technical and Fundamental Research have found a direct link between the amount of yoghurt and other fermented milk products eaten and the incidence of breast cancer, epidemiologist Peter van 't Veer said.

The scientists studied 133 women with breast cancer and 285 without. They found that those who ate 225 grammes (about eight ounces) of fermented milk products a day ran less than half the risk of contracting breast cancer than women who ate none.

IRA Mafia-inspired

BELFAST, June 7. (Reuters): The new US ambassador to Britain today said the IRA was inspired by the Mafia, financed by some ignorant Americans and armed by Libya.

Speaking after a fact-finding trip to Northern Ireland, Henry Catto said of the Irish Republican Army: "It looks to me as if these people have their arms from Libya and their inspiration from Don Corleone and the Mafia. It is not a happy combination."

Chashoggi to fight

BERN, June 7. (UPI): Saudi Arabian business Adnan Khashoggi has decided to fight an extradition demand by the United States where he is wanted in charges of racketeering, Swiss officials said today.

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China near total chaos

'Butchers of Beijing' in



A Chinese soldier remains hanging from a burned out bus as residents look on in the western part of the city on Tuesday. (Reuter wirephoto)

China's leaders, having unleashed the forces of war, could now rein them in.

"These Army commanders are like warlords. Beijing can't control them," a Western military expert said.

Meanwhile, politburo member Qiao Shi, thought to be a tough disciplinarian heading China's internal security forces surfaced as a possible successor to ousted reformist party leader Zhao Ziyang.

State radio said the supreme court sent a message of support to Qiao and leading party members on their decision "to put down the counter-revolutionary rebellion."

But, diplomats said, even if the party's power struggle was resolved it was not certain that

A clearer picture emerged today from accounts by witnesses and official sources of how 27 armoured units with guns blazing crashed through civilian barricades and through lines of reluctant troops sent in before them to end the occupation of Tiananmen Square by thousands of students.

"They had orders that nobody be spared and children and young girls were slaughtered as mercilessly as the many wounded soldiers from other units," a diplomat said.

Troops under separate orders to evacuate thousands of students safely from the square were also mown down as dawn broke on Sunday.

(Continued on Page 9, Col. 5)

173 die in DC-8 airline disaster

PARAMARIBO, Suriname, June 7. (Agencies): A Surinam Airways DC-8 flying from the Netherlands with at least 187 people aboard crashed and ripped apart today near the capital's international airport, killing at least 173 people, the airline said.

The Suriname news agency said there were only 13 known survivors from the plane that carried 181 passengers and an unknown number of crew members. It said the survivors were hospitalised, but their conditions were not known.

A statement by the airline said there were 13 survivors from 188 passengers and crew members. But an airline spokesperson in the Netherlands, Suriname's former colonial ruler, said there were 14 survivors from 187 people on board — 178 passengers and nine crew members.

It was not immediately possible to reconcile the discrepancies.

"There is a great number of deaths," Leo Marapin, the airline's Amsterdam station manager, said.

There also were differences in reports on when and where the accident occurred. The airline statement said it happened at 4:53am (715 GMT) when the plane crashed a mile (1.5 kilometers) short of Zanderij airport.

Other reports, including some media reports in Holland, said it occurred 15 minutes (eight kilometers) from the airport.

All the reports agreed that heavy fog, common this time of year in Suriname in the early morning hours, blanketed the area. Airline spokesman Robbi Lachmasing told reporters in Amsterdam the airport had no radar.

The Suriname news agency said three of the nation's top military officers were on the flight and identified them as Army Chief of Staff Maj. Raymond Lieuw Yen Tai, Air Force commander Maj. Eddy Djoë and Army chief of operations Capt. Armand Salomons. All were presumed dead, it said.

Lachmasing said the 14 survivors were rushed to Paramaribo's University Hospital, but their identities and condition were not immediately known.

The airline said the plane was flown by Americans, all full-time employees of Surinam Airways. Their fates were not immediately known.

Iranians called Khomeini their imam or spiritual leader.

Khamenei, kneeling at the grave of Khomeini, today vowed to keep on a revolutionary path.

Buses brought hundreds of people to the city centre campus early in the morning and streets all around were packed with Iranian of all ages.

The memorial service held at the site of the weekly prayer meeting, was attended by Khamenei and other leaders including Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, Prime

Calls for unity in Iran



Khamenei vows Khomeini path

TEHRAN, June 7. (Agencies): Tens of thousands of worshippers voiced support for Iran's new leader at a memorial service today for Ayatollah Khomeini amid calls for unity to keep his 10-year-old Islamic revolution on track.

Carrying black flags and portraits of Khomeini, the crowds at Tehran University chanted "Obedience to (President Ali) Khamenei is obedience to the imam" and "we are ready to die for the imam, but now he is dead we have nothing to live for."

In a renewed outpouring of grief for Khomeini, the worshippers beat their heads with their fists in the traditional Shiite Muslim mourning rite.

"One man, sitting in a wheelchair, said: 'We were ready to die for the imam, but now he is dead and you were here with us,' they chanted."

Around 100 people who collapsed in the fierce heat and crush of the densely packed crowd were hoisted over the heads of the worshippers and

(Continued on Page 9, Col. 1)

Iranian dissident assassinated in Dubai

Arab Times staff

KUWAIT, June 7: Atollah Bayahmadi, an Iranian exile who fled Tehran after he had taken part in an unsuccessful plot to overthrow the regime of Ayatollah Khomeini in 1980, was assassinated in Dubai last Sunday, according to Dr. Manucher Ghanji, a leader of a Paris-based Iranian opposition group.

Bayahmadi, 52, was shot several times in his room in Dubai's Excelsior hotel by one or more unknown assassins using a Colt revolver equipped with a silencer, he said.

Ghanji declined to reveal the nature of the mission but stressed that it did not involve terrorism.

Bayahmadi, who recently became a French citizen, arrived in Dubai from Paris, his home

(Continued on Page 9)

Police investigator Josefino Bonilla said two men in their early 20s flagged down Sgt. Zosimo Curameng in the Manila district of Pandacan, talked to the victim, then shot him in the head with 45-calibre pistols.

Military officials called off rescue operations Wednesday for miners trapped during a landslide last week, which killed at least 13 people.

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Good news for pill users: study

WASHINGTON, June 7, (UPI): Women using birth control pills and having a history of breast cancer in their families appear to be at no added risk of developing the disease while taking oral contraceptives, a study said.

A family history of breast can-

cer is a well-established risk factor for the disease, the most common cancer to strike women, and some studies have linked use of the birth control pill to breast cancer.

Writing yesterday in the journal *Obstetrics and Gynaecology*,

the researchers concluded neither the total length of pill use nor use before pregnancy affected the cancer risk for women whose mothers, sisters or daughters suffered the disease.

"There was no evidence that use of oral contraceptives, even

long-term, contributed to their risk of the disease," the researchers wrote. "Analyses designed to reveal a potential latent effect also showed no evidence of adverse effect."

The researchers, noting similar studies "yielded some-

what conflicting results," said there appeared to be no added cancer risk for women using the pill whose aunts and grandmothers have suffered breast cancer.

The subjects of the study came from eight different regions of the country.

US has serious shortage of donated organs

Transplant recipient says thousands need help

WASHINGTON, June 7, (UPI): Ray Richards has evolved from being a true believer in organ donations to a crusader, having beaten the odds with his own new kidney.

"I always did see the value of donating organs," said Richards, who two years ago underwent a kidney transplant after a five-

year wait that included visits to a dialysis centre three times a week. "I now encourage people to donate organs," Richards said.

But his message usually falls on deaf ears.

The United States has a serious shortage of donated organs and tissues, preventing many transplants from being performed, said Gary

Striker of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases.

Wanda Bond, of the United Network for Organ Sharing in Richmond, Va. said there are 17,422 people in the United States who need a transplant and are awaiting organs, with 14,919 of them hoping for replacement kidneys.



The Arabian Year Book 1989

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Doctors clear signs of AIDS in patient

MONTREAL, June 7, (Agencies): Doctors reported yesterday that for the first time they cleared all signs of the deadly AIDS virus from an AIDS patient, but the patient later died from an AIDS-related cancer.

In findings presented at the 5th International AIDS Conference, Johns Hopkins University researchers said the most sophisticated test currently available could not find signs of the deadly virus in an AIDS patient treated with the drug AZT and a bone marrow transplant.

The researchers emphasised their results do not mean they have found a cure for AIDS, and cautioned that perhaps the AIDS virus was present in the treated patient in minute, undetectable amounts or in a defective form.

The 41-year-old male patient died about six weeks after the marrow transplant from a previously diagnosed AIDS-related cancer, doctors said, adding the patient had no other AIDS-linked complications or infections when he died.

Tests on the patient's blood and tissues just before and after his death turned up no evidence of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus or HIV, which causes AIDS.

"Even though the patient died, we believe we demonstrated in one patient that we cleared all signs of the AIDS virus," said Dr Rein Saral, who helped direct the research at the Baltimore Medical Centre.

Dr Albert Donnenberg, who also was involved in the treatment, said to his knowledge, it is the first time researchers have been able to knock out all signs of the AIDS virus in an infected person.

Meanwhile, the United States plans to recommend wide use of a drug once sold on the black market that can protect AIDS-infected people from potentially fatal bouts of pneumonia, a senior official revealed yesterday.

Assistant Secretary for Health James Mason told the 5th International AIDS Conference that recommendations will soon be published urging use of aerosol pentamidine, which is inhaled into the lungs.

The proposal would mark the first major effort by the US government to help people with the AIDS virus before they develop the deadly disease.

Mason said preliminary estimates indicate the decision will probably cost the private and public sectors at least \$2 to \$3 billion annually.

But the cost is difficult to project because it is not known how many of the 1 million to 1.5 million Americans with HIV realise they are infected, he said.

A leading US sex researcher said new surveys of American sexual behaviour show that far more people may be at risk for developing the deadly disease than previously believed.

Speaking yesterday at the conference, June Reinisch of the Kinsey Institute said that "the concept of high risk groups is not very helpful" when it comes to AIDS and sexual behaviour.

Reinisch said an analysis of 17 surveys of the sexual activities of white, middle-class Americans from 1948 through 1988 turned up a surprisingly high prevalence of at-risk behaviour for AIDS.

One of the major routes of AIDS transmission is by sexual contact with an infected person, and anal intercourse has been shown to be particularly risky if condoms are not used.

Reinisch's work found at least 30 per cent of the people who called themselves heterosexual had at least one sexual encounter with a person of the same sex, and three out of four homosexuals have had sex with a person of the opposite gender.

One out of three white-middle class men had sex with a female prostitute, Reinisch said.

Male homosexuals and female prostitutes have been among the groups that public health officials have considered at high risk of being infected with HIV.

The latest data from the longest-running study of the AIDS virus in humans strengthens the theory that all infected individuals eventually will come down with the disease.

Even among those men in the study who have not yet developed AIDS, virtually all have some early symptoms of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, Rutherford said.



A fond farewell

The Princess of Wales receives flowers from children as she leaves the Lorne House Centre in Hackney, East London on Tuesday. The centre has been funded by three charities, the Mental Health Foundation, Turning Point and the Guinness Trust. The centre will help young people with alcohol and drug problems. (Reuters wirephoto)

Strike cripples passport offices

LONDON, June 7, (Reuters): Britain is asking other countries to admit travellers on out-of-date British passports because of a huge backlog of applications at strike-hit offices.

Home Secretary Douglas Hurd said yesterday that foreign countries were being asked to accept expired passports or the less formal British visitors passports, currently recognised only in Western Europe and a few other countries.

Hurd did not name the countries appro-

ched, but officials said they would include the United States.

Union leaders said yesterday the backlog of applications had reached half a million, and warned of further action unless they got more staff, improvements to the computer system and better facilities for staff and the public.

Hurd said the home office is trying to recruit 158 more staff by the end of next month. The unions want another 381.

No nuke vote cast

Arms plant investigated

DENVER, June 7, (AP): The Justice Department opened a criminal investigation yesterday of possible environmental violations at the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant in Colorado.

About 75 agents from the FBI and the US Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Criminal Investigations began searching the plant yesterday morning, US Attorney Mike Norton said.

He said agents also went to the Albuquerque, New Mexico, office of the US Department of Energy, which supervises Rocky Flats.

The plant, near Denver, is operated for the government by Rockwell International Corp. and manufactures plutonium triggers for nuclear weapons.

Investigators were checking allegations of treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous wastes without permits, false certification of environmental reports and concealment of environmental contamination, Norton said.

Attorney General Dick Thornburgh, in a statement issued in Washington, said:

"This investigation does not signal any major new environmental safety or health concern."

Henson Moore, deputy DOE secretary, appeared with Norton at a news conference and said any operations at the plant that pose a threat to public health and safety would be suspended.

Moore said no part of the plant was closed yesterday and that the Energy Department was cooperating fully with the inves-

tigation.

Meanwhile voters in Sacramento, California, yesterday decided to close the Rancho Seco Nuclear Power Plant, marking the first time a US electorate has chosen to shut down an operating reactor.

With absentee ballots in and all precincts reporting, 112,738 or 57.4 per cent voted to close the troubled plant, while 97,698 or 46.6 per cent voted to keep it open.

Election officials had projected a heavy special election turnout of up to 50 per cent of the 529,658 registered voters in the Sacramento Municipal Utility District, which operates the plant 25 miles (40 kilometres) southeast of California's capital.

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PEOPLE AND PLACES

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JUNE 8-9, 1989

PLEASANTON, California: A local roofer, convicted of being in possession of a car that did not belong to him, was ordered by a judge to write a nine-word sentence 10,000 times before being freed from jail.

A municipal court judge ordered Timothy Loggins to write the sentence, "If I don't own it, I won't take it," as punishment for missing several court

appearances.

Loggins was released from custody on Monday after submitting a thick stack of papers bearing the repeated sentences, court officials said.

Court Clerk Beverly Dehuchi said she did not know if the judge tallied up Loggins' handwork before releasing him.

"I know I didn't," she said. (Reuters)

CHICAGO: Air turbulence bounced a United Airlines jumbo jet at 37,000 feet (11,000 metres) yesterday, injuring about 30 passengers bound for Chicago, officials said.

United Flight 90, a non-stop flight from Los Angeles carrying 232 passengers and 11 crew members, landed at O'Hare International Airport around 7pm (1100 GMT) without further incident,

said airline spokesman Joe Hopkins.

"We've been told the plane was over Garden City, Kansas, when it encountered clear-air turbulence ... which means the pilot couldn't see it," Hopkins said.

Figures on the number injured varied. Officials at hospitals said 20 victims were brought in, but the Federal Aviation Administration put the number at 35. (AP)

GALION, Ohio: Only seconds after receiving her own high school diploma, Lafessa Alkire watched her granddaughter Wadonna Jeanne Alkire pick up her diploma in the Northmor High School gymnasium.

Mrs Alkire, 65, returned to high school last fall to earn the diploma she passed up 45 years earlier to get married. In the interim, she raised 13 children and has 27 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

"I tried. I tried hard. School was hard for me, believe me. But I don't care. I'm tickled (thrilled) I got through it," she said at Sunday's commencement. (AP)

CHICAGO: Key in "valley," "shadow" and "death" and up comes the 23rd Psalm on the screen of the newest version of the good book — the pocket-sized computerised Bible.

At least two manufacturers, taking advantage of information compression technology, exhibited computerised versions of the Old and New Testament at the summer consumer electronics show in Chicago which ended yesterday.

Mark Weiser, chairman and chief executive officer of Selectronics Inc, called development of low-cost pocket-sized computers, such as his company's EB2000 electronic Bible, "a breakthrough product" in the industry. (Reuters)

EVERGREEN, Alabama: Two years after the courts declared her the illegitimate daughter of the late country music legend Hank Williams, Jett Williams made her professional debut as a country singer.

Ms. Williams, 36, was given a standing ovation Sunday at the 16th Annual Hank Williams Memorial Celebration when she opened her 20-minute performance with her father's "Your Cheatin' Heart."

"I'd like to tell you it's great to be back in Alabama," she told the crowd of about 4,000. "I'm meeting a lot of people who knew my father, and I'm getting to know him through it." (AP)

LIVINGSTON, Montana: Peter Fonda is working on a book about his life, but the actor promises it will not be a "kiss and tell" saga of the famous Fonda family.

Fonda, best known for his role in the cult-culture classic "Easy Rider" is the son of Henry Fonda and the younger brother of Jane Fonda. He said although the book will talk about his family, it will focus on his own life, especially during the turbulent 1960s.

Fonda, 50, has lived in Montana's Paradise Valley for 14 years. (AP)

TOPEKA, Kansas: Rosa Parks says she never meant to start the civil-right movement when she refused to move to the back of a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955.

"When I got on the bus, I only wanted to come home," she said Saturday night during a news conference in Topeka. "I just knew that as far as I was concerned, I would never ride on a segregated bus again." (AP)

OMAHA BEACH, France: The sacrifices made by allied soldiers on the war-torn beaches of France 45 years ago were remembered yesterday in D-day ceremonies marking the anniversary of the allied invasion of Normandy.

About 1,000 people, including many veterans from the United States, gathered around a reflecting pool at the memorial in the US military cemetery at Omaha Beach to honour fallen

comrades.

"We're here to remember what was done in this place, we're here to thank the living and honour and dead," said US Secretary of the Army John O. Marsh Jr.

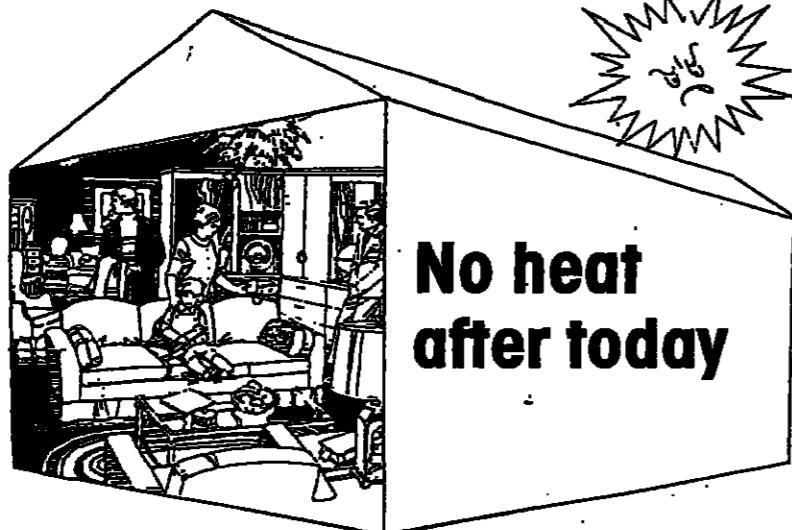
At dawn on June 6, 1944, American troops stormed ashore to drive back German forces in what was the beginning of the end of Hitler's Nazi



Grace under pressure

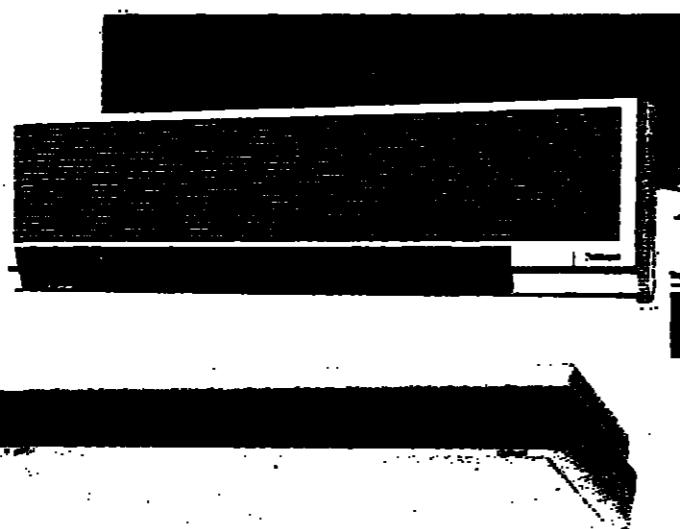
Actress and singer Grace Jones appears in court Tuesday in Kingston, Jamaica. Her trial on possession of cocaine was postponed until Thursday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Real cooling, too quiet, high technology and attractive shapes



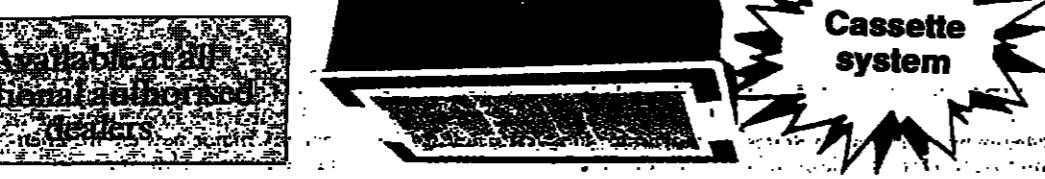
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1990 fashions offer ease, elegance

PARIS, June 7, (AP): Styles for the early 1990s indicate designers are thinking of women who work, travel and like to feel comfortable in whatever look they choose.

Whether based on masculine styles or dressed up for evening, fashion collections appearing for 1990 are presented with an eye to both ease and elegance.

Designers are letting go of their recent visions of bouncy, ruffles and slinky wear and returning to softer silhouettes

and softer fabrics with a light touch of body-consciousness in the structuring. Shoulders are padded for shape, but never dominate.

Skirt lengths are barely relevant, though quite long and above the knee are the younger-looking norms.

Karl Lagerfeld at Chanel dismisses any discussion of skirt lengths. His answer to youth is to show some outfits without any skirt at all — simply tights under handsome jackets.

Trousers are a welcome solution, though the wide A-line look has been cut back to somewhat straighter lines, on the dressy side even in suits — with waist tucking, as at Saint Laurent and Jean-Louis Scherrer.

Jackets are the big bonanza everywhere. They range from the very long styles, to snug spencers, battle jackets and boleros. Details may be strong in piping, zigzag fastening, little belts or vents at the back.

Several designers give fantasy touches with swallowtail or cutaway styles in dressier models.

Coats are another big story. If you like trench or belted "ballrobe" styles, they're looking handsome for fall.

Italians like Tarlazzi and Romeo Gigli have their models in coats. Tarlazzi uses a camel-coloured wrap with a bright lining and Gigli's Byzantine "cocoon" are dramatically colourful.

Christian Lacroix plays with the cape theme in loud colour combinations with his short suits in styles evoking the England of Vita Sackville-West and the literary Bloomsbury set.

Capes are glamorous at Saint Laurent and hot numbers at Patrick Kelly, whose little caped riding hoods are as fun as they are colourful.

As true suits have stepped back into the fashion picture, so have soft dresses, looking better than ever as with doublet coat dresses, shirtdresses and little shifts.

Fabrics are important for these stylishly soft clothes, making them more fluid than ever. Large plaids, stripes and houndstooth checks offer new choices at Christian Lacroix, Scherrer and elsewhere.

Folklore is making a chic comeback with Lacroix's favourite provençal motifs and Kilim rug designs, as well as the handsome black and white Chanel knits borrowed from Indian weaves.

Scherrer and Hanae Mori are strong on exotic animal-spotted winter prints and weaves, and Scherrer's feather patterns add a touch.

Otherwise, look for temptingly light jerseys, cashmere, textured and cable knits along with soft flannel and broadcloth. The new tweed and serge don't

pink add a heathy touch to autumn wardrobes.

But Paris isn't timid about colour, either. The designers are prodigious in their use of red — everything for a scarlet woman, from deep raspberry or garnet to cardinal, orange-coral, fuchsia or flame.

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Top ANC member visits Mandela

JOHANNESBURG, June 7. (Reuters): Veteran black nationalist Govan Mbeki, highest-ranking African National Congress (ANC) leader at Liber in South Africa, has visited Nelson Mandela in his prison home, newspapers reported today.

Mbeki, 78, was sentenced with Mandela to life imprisonment in 1964 for trying to overthrow South Africa's white government.

Amnesty in Namibia

WINDHOEK, June 7. (UPI): South African and UN officials have announced the repeal of most of Namibia's racist laws and declared a general amnesty that clears the way for an ambitious airlift of more than 40,000 Namibian exiles.

The proclamations, signed yesterday by South African President P. W. Botha in Cape Town, puts the UN-run independence programme for Namibia into high gear and ends nearly 75 years of South African administration of Africa's last colony.

Expected to take effect this week after publication in the government gazette, the proclamations include the lifting of a 25-year-old ban on the African National Congress in Namibia.

Relatives search for mementoes of the dead

UFA, Soviet Union, June 7. (Reuters): Grieving relatives, some weeping uncontrollably, picked through the wreckage of one of the world's worst train disasters today in search of some mementoes of the more than 400 people believed dead.

Four carriages lying charred and twisted on their sides and a mass of wood and metal was all that was left of two trains caught in a massive explosion of gas from a leaking pipeline as they crossed in opposite directions on Sunday.

The blast, on a remote stretch of the trans-Siberian railway 100 km (60 miles) east of Ufa in the Ural region, flattened several square km (miles) of forest with a force estimated at 10 kilotonnes.

More than three days after the accident, there were still isolated palls of smoke rising from the trees and an acrid smell in the air.

Several hundred relief workers, some stripped to the waist in the hot sunshines, continued the clean-up operation.

Nearby along the track, relatives used sticks or their bare hands to examine fragments of clothing and metal and laid small bunches of flowers on the ground.

"What about this teapot?" said one man holding up a piece of cracked china. "No, it was a cup, she had a cup," said his companion.

Igor Klochikov, a member of a government commission sent from Moscow to investigate the accident, told visiting foreign reporters that more than 250 of the estimated 1,200 or so people on the train had died, 53 in hospital.

"There are another 723 people in hospital in Ufa and elsewhere," he said. "Of them 381 are in grave condition."

With 41 people allowed home after the accident, that leaves as many as 200 people unaccounted for.

Most are feared to have been blown to pieces in the explosion but Klochikov said it was impossible to say exactly how many had died because a definitive passenger list had not yet been drawn up.

About one-third of the passengers were children, many of whom had been travelling to summer holiday camps. The last to be found alive was a five-year-old found wandering in a nearby forest on Monday with slight burns.

A special centre was set up at Ufa airport to help relatives who were flooding the city to find out the fate of passengers.

Panama mediators get 6-week extension

Endara's wife dies of heart attack

PANAMA CITY, June 7. (AP): The wife of opposition presidential candidate Guillermo Endara suffered a fatal heart attack last night, a political opposition spokesman said.

Spokesman Ane Beliz said Marcela Cambray de Endara, 48, died in the family home in central Panama City at 5:30 pm (2130 GMT). Beliz added that Mrs Endara had a history of heart trouble.

Mrs Endara also is survived by the couple's daughter, Marcela, and a grandson, Guillermo.

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto opposed the extension on grounds that it did not have the explicit support of the Panamanian government.

Nonetheless, Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter

raised no objection to the proposal, under which the foreign ministers of Ecuador, Costa Rica and Trinidad will undertake a return mission to Panama.

The agreement was reached

Archbishop Marcos McGrath of Panama visited the Endara home last night to offer his condolences to the former presidential candidate. Hundreds of business, politicians and political supporters also stopped by to pay their respects.

Mrs Endara's funeral is scheduled for tomorrow.

Endara and his supporters claim he won the May 7 presidential election, which later was nullified by the Panamanian government.

After closed-door talks at the Colombian embassy, Endara and his supporters claim he won the May 7 presidential election, which later was nullified by the Panamanian government.

The agreement was reached

ment. He was freed in November 1987 in what many analysts saw as a dry run for Mandela's eventual release.

The newspaper reports said Mbeki was unexpectedly allowed to visit 70-year-old Mandela at the Victor Verster prison near Paarl outside Cape Town yesterday, after several previous requests were turned down.

Mbeki spent about two and a half hours at the prison. The length of his meeting with Mandela and details of their conversation were not disclosed.

Mbeki has lived under a government banning order since his release and cannot speak to the press. The order also prevents him from leaving his home town of Port Elizabeth without permission.

Mandela is held in a luxury bungalow inside prison grounds, after being moved from Cape Town's Polsmoor prison last year to be treated for tuberculosis.

Speculation is high that he may be released after general elections in September, though previous rumours that Mandela is to be freed have proved unfounded.

Ryzhkov grilled before re-election

Gorbachev rebuffs Yeltsin

MOSCOW, June 7. (AP): Soviet lawmakers criticised Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov's handling of the country's economic and environmental problems for two hours today before reappointing him in a nearly unanimous vote.

In other action, President Mikhail Gorbachev rebuffed an attempt by several lawmakers to name an outspoken communist reformer Boris Yeltsin head of a government watchdog agency in place of Gorbachev's choice for the job.

Gorbachev proposed Gennady Kolbin, party chief of the Central Asian republic of Kazakhstan, to head the people's control committee, which oversees government planning and spending.

But a parade of Supreme Soviet deputies took the floor to promote Yeltsin for the job. They praised Yeltsin's reputation for independence and battling corruption, which they said made him better suited for the post.

Gorbachev, however, insisted it was his constitutional right to name his own choice, subject only to the legislature's consent.

After permitting more than an hour of debate, the President moved to cut off further discussion and forced a vote that resulted in overwhelming confirmation of Kolbin.

Yeltsin took the floor near the end to say he thought Kolbin was qualified for the post, but he did not specifically ask to be withdrawn from consideration.

Only 34 of the 509 deputies participating voted to reject Kolbin. Under the confirmation procedure, Yeltsin's name was not submitted for a vote.

The bicameral full-time legislature, meeting in joint session, confirmed Ryzhkov's reappointment with only nine of the deputies in opposition. As premier, Ryzhkov is charged with overseeing the Soviet bureaucracy's efforts to institute Gorbachev's economic and political reforms.

Ryzhkov, 59, has served as Soviet premier since September 1985.

Alain tapped for reappointment to the post by Gorbachev, and endorsed by the Communist Party, he had been expected to win confirmation by the new legislature.

Gorbachev praised the former factory director as a "determined proponent of the policy of perestroika" and defended his record as the country's economic chief.

But other legislators peppered Ryzhkov with barbed questions about poverty, the country's poor agricultural performance, the shrinking supply of consumer goods and the ecological problems in more than 100 Soviet cities and around the rapidly shrinking Aral Sea.

Yuri Komarov, a deputy from Siberia, said an agricultural agency created at the start of Gorbachev's reforms and then abolished last March was so inefficient that "people were saying it was the most successful action by the CIA against the Soviet economy."

A Lithuanian deputy demanded to know what the government planned to do about 43 million Soviets that he said were living in poverty. He called their plight "disastrous."

Ryzhkov agreed that something must be done about poverty but did not specify what actions he would take.

A prominent writer told a parliament session yesterday that intellectuals in the Kazakhstan republic contend Soviet troops violently suppressed a 1986 protest and that officials have kept the death toll secret.

Writer Mukhtar Shakhanov told the 2,250-member Congress of People's Deputies that a letter from intellectuals charged that soldiers used dogs and shovels to break up protests in Kazakhstan.

He said the number of deaths in the December 1986 disturbance in Alma Ata, the capital of the republic, has been kept secret.

The intellectuals called for formation of a legislative commission to investigate the rioting.

powerful armed service is necessary "to ensure Chile's institutional stability."

The constitution allows Pinochet to remain as commander for eight years after stepping down as president. The opposition has criticised the clause, but Pinochet refused to change it.

Asked about widespread accusations of serious human rights violations under his military government, the 73-year-old Pinochet said he agrees that "some cases must be dealt with by the courts."

The intellectuals called for formation of a legislative commission to investigate the rioting.

Poles' vote guided by emotions: government

WARSAW, June 7. (Agencies): The communist government, denying that Solidarity election victories have affected its ability to govern, said the trade union's convincing showing may not have been the "real expressive will of the majority" in Poland.

At the first government news conference since the partially democratic parliamentary elections Sunday, spokesman Zbigniew Rykowski said, "The decisions of the individual voters were guided above all by emotions."

He then drew laughter from several hundred reporters when he added: "It remains an open question whether these individual opinions are the real expressive will of the majority. I think not."

Solidarity is a decisive majority in the new 100-member Senate and virtually all of the 161 seats available to the opposition in the Sejm, according to unofficial returns tabulated by volunteers.

Meanwhile, opposition and government representatives have met to discuss how to fill vacant seats in parliament that were reserved for Communist Party members.

Co-operation

The meeting yesterday underlined the increasing co-operation being shown by opposition leaders and communist authorities as they work to avoid a political crisis after Sunday's voting.

Unofficial returns show most or all of the 35 leading communists officials on a "national list" running unopposed for the Sejm, or parliament, were denied approval by the required 50 per cent majority.

Officials earlier reported 56 people dead and hundreds injured in the violence, which a local deputy said began with a quarrel at a market stall over the price of strawberries.

Residents of a collective farm outside Fergana had "saved many from the pogroms and made the area safe for them," it said. "Again the police fell down — they were nowhere to be seen."

Soviet television yesterday showed troops patrolling the streets to enforce a curfew and guarding a refugee camp filled with wounded and frightened Moslems.

"The shooting has stopped, but we are afraid to go outside," the resident said. "About half the shops are closed. People are being evacuated."

Authorities have deployed thousands of troops to enforce an uneasy peace, and Komsoomskaya Pravda said 87 soldiers were among the injured.

It said 315 people were detained yesterday alone in the region south of the Uzbek capital, Tashkent.

The newspaper gave no breakdown of the dead, but earlier figures indicated about three-quarters of the victims were Meskhetians, a minority deported to Central Asia from southwest Georgia by dictator Josef

Stalin in 1944. More than 160,000 live in Uzbekistan.

Interior Minister Vadim Bakatin, sent to Fergana to oversee government operations, told the daily Sotsialisticheskaya Industria that special Interior Ministry troops had so far failed to secure full control of the situation.

Komsoomskaya Pravda said 11,000 Meskhetians, hunted down by Uzbeks wielding clubs and iron bars, had been evacuated from the area around the city of Fergana.

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"The shooting has stopped, but we are afraid to go outside," the resident said. "About half the shops are closed. People are being evacuated."

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev appealed today for a halt to ethnic clashes in Uzbekistan.

"Clashes are continuing, leading to people wounded and even loss of human life," Gorbachev told the Soviet parliament.

"There are a number of investigators. Firearms are being used."

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The Turkish embassy accused Ozgur of trying to undermine its special relations with North Cyprus where Turkish Cypriots declared independence in 1983. Ankara alone recognises the breakaway state and backs it with some 29,000 troops.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Bombs hurled

DHAKA, Bangladesh, June 7. (AP): Rebels from the Chittagong Hills buried bombs into a crowded marketplace in southeastern Bangladesh, killing at least two people and wounding 20 others, police said today.

The rebels, mostly from the Buddhist Chakma tribe, appear to be stepping up their attacks because of local elections scheduled on June 25, a military officer said by telephone from Khagrachari, 175 kms (110 miles) southeast of Dhaka.

Tutu distressed

DURBAN, South Africa, June 7. (AP): Archbishop Desmond Tutu said yesterday he was annoyed by the failure of his fellow Anglican clergymen to allow women to become priests. He likened sex discrimination to apartheid.

Tutu, the first black to lead the Anglican church in southern Africa, commented during a synod of church officials at which the issue of ordination of women was raised.

Asked to resign

BUDAPEST, Hungary, June 7. (AP): Sandor Barcs, once a prominent figure in the state and government hierarchy, has been asked to resign his parliamentary mandate because he signed a controversial execution warrant in 1949, the news agency MTI reported yesterday.

From 1950 to 1980, Barcs served as director-general of MTI in addition to a series of other official functions, including that of member of the presidential council, a 15-member body that headed the state hierarchy.

In its terse announcement, MTI did not list Barcs's many different jobs, including that of news executive.

Safety training

WASHINGTON, June 7. (AP): The commandant of the US Marine Corps, noting that 45 Marines have died in aircraft accidents this year, has ordered all the service's aviation units to stop for two days of refresher safety training.

"Our Marines are not letting us down; we are letting ourselves down," Gen. Al Gray said in the memo, distributed on Monday night and obtained by the Associated Press.

The memo, sent to Marine aviation units world-wide, said that preliminary investigations have pointed to "crew error" as the most likely cause of all seven fatal crashes this year.

Release welcomed

WASHINGTON, June 7. (UPI): The State Department yesterday welcomed the release of the last of the political prisoners who were held under Kenya's Public Security Law.

President David Asa-Moi announced on June 1 the release of four of the prisoners, and on June 5 announced the release of the last three of the seven prisoners.

The political prisoners who were released are Raila Odinga, Wanyiri Kioko, Mukuru Nganga, Samuel Okumu, Okwany, Israel Otiemo Agiza, Mirugi Kariuki and Richard Obuon Goya. Odinga, who had been held since 1982, is the son of the first vice-president of Kenya, Oginga Odinga.

Smuggler jailed

LONDON, June 7. (Reuters): An Armenian-born orchid smuggler who "raped beauty spots around the world" in search of rare blooms was jailed and given a heavy fine yesterday.

Henry Azadeh was jailed for 12 months — eight of them suspended — and ordered to pay fines and legal costs of £20,000 (\$31,000) for smuggling and selling orchids contrary to the convention on international trade in endangered species.

Talks to begin

CAYENNE, French Guiana, June 7. (Reuters): French-mediated talks on ending three years of civil war in Surinam were set to begin in French Guiana on Wednesday, French government officials in Cayenne said.

They said rebel leader Ronny Brinckswijk would meet a senior official of Surinam's parliament, the French administrator of French Guiana, Jean-Pierre Lacroix, and a representative of the French Foreign Ministry. The time and location of the talks were being kept secret.

Dialogue

OKYO, June 7. (KUNA): Japanese Prime Minister Susumu Uno and US Ambassador to Japan Michael Aronson signed that both their countries should soon dislodge between them the dialogue, Japanese officials said today.

The officials quoted US President George Bush as saying in a message delivered to Uno that he is looking forward to establish close relations with Uno. The message was relayed by US ambassador to Japan, the officials said.

Rightists supported

THESS, Greece, June 7. (AP): French far-right leader Jean-Marie Le Pen yesterday voiced his support for a Greek right and appealed for the release of the jailed strengtheners of 1967-74 military regime.

"The 15-year jailing of these men violates all human rights," Le Pen told a news conference.

Le Pen came to Athens for one day to support the extreme-right Greek National Union Party (EPEN) in view of this month's elections.

Rare mosaics

INDIANAPOLIS, June 7. (AP): An art dealer here has expressed confidence she had proven her ownership of rare Byzantine mosaics was legitimate after testimony ended in a court trial over Cyprus's effort to return them back.

"I think we have proved what we had to prove, and that is that we repossessed these mosaics in good faith," Peg Goldberg said as she left a district court. "Who in their right mind can imagine that we would have to pay \$1 million to buy stolen property."

Pakistan has no N-weapon

US will sell 60 more F-16s

WASHINGTON, June 7. (Agencies): Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto told a joint meeting of Congress today that Pakistan does not possess a nuclear device, will not build one and "will not provoke a nuclear arms race" on the subcontinent.

Benazir made her pledge in an address in which she said democracy is on the rise in her region and dictators are in retreat around the world.

She said the United States and Pakistan represent a partnership for democracy that must redouble efforts for a broad-based, democratic government to Afghanistan.

"Pakistan and the United States have travelled a long road with Afghanistan in quest of self-determination," the Pakistani prime minister said.

She said that now Soviet forces have withdrawn, "let us not leave with indifference, we must not abandon the cause."

Turning to the United States' most active concern about her country's conduct, Benazir said Pakistan has no intention of becoming a nuclear power.

"I can declare that we do not possess nor do we intend to make a nuclear device," the prime minister said.

She said her government is ready to accept international safeguards on its nuclear materials and reactors "on non-discriminatory regional basis."

Pakistan has long advocated a nuclear-free zone in the region, Benazir said, adding that her country is prepared to conclude a nuclear test ban with neighbours in South Asia.

She mentioned no other country, Pakistan's regional rival, India, has resisted such proposals unless they include China, which already has nuclear weapons.

The US and Soviet navies have suffered 1,276 accidents since 1945, including the loss of 50 nuclear weapons and nine nuclear reactors into the ocean, according to a report released by two groups yesterday.

Greenpeace, the environmental group, and the Institute for Policy Studies, a research and policy organisation, said their report was based on official documents from the Pentagon describing hundreds of collisions, sinkings, fires and other incidents involving vessels or airplanes carrying nuclear weapons.

Of the 1,276 accidents, 799 involved US warships, but authors of the study said that did not mean the American Navy had a higher accident rate than other navies. In particular, they said there probably were hundreds more Soviet incidents they were unable to document because of Kremlin secrecy.

The report said 524 of the accidents, 49 per cent, were in the Atlantic Ocean, 318, or 25 per cent, were in the Pacific; 110 were in the Mediterranean Sea and 34 were in the Indian Ocean.

The agreement's key paragraph specified that "the parties shall take measures to ensure expeditious termination



House Minority leader Robert Michel presents newly elected Speaker of the House Thomas Foley (left), a gavel on the House floor. (Reuter wirephoto)

'Respect' but no honeymoon

Republicans test Foley's vow

WASHINGTON, June 7. (AP): Thomas S. Foley, the new speaker of the House of Representatives, is promising an "environment of respect" to a House torn by the resignation of Jim Wright. But his vow is being tested by Republican attacks aimed at portraying him and all Democrats as corrupt.

"We cannot tolerate the continuance of the current distrust and suspicion and expect to fulfill the public's expectation," the Washington Democrat said yesterday upon taking the speaker's gavel.

The Democrats plan to meet next week to fill Foley's old post.

Republicans have moved quickly to take advantage of the Democratic turmoil, attacking Foley and warning the Democrats they can't run away from the ethics issue.

House Minority Leader Bob Michel, an Illinois Republican, turned the usually good-willed gesture of introducing the new speaker to the House into a strongly-worded reminder that Republicans are seething after 35 years under the ruling Democrats.

Foley's soothing words were sent to a House shaken by an extraordinary upheaval in the Democratic ranks, with two of

the three top party officers exiting because of questions about their personal finances.

Wright, a Texas Democrat, resigned after the House Ethics Committee charged him with violating House rules on outside income, and the No. 3 Democrat, majority whip Tony Coelho of California, is stepping down to avoid inquiry into a junk bond deal.

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Benazir's father was deposed by Zia in 1977 and hanged two years later.



Benazir addressing the US Congress. (Reuter wirephoto)

Student killed by police in protest

COLOMBO, June 7. (Agencies): Police shot dead a student as a thousand demonstrators attacked their barracks in one of a series of anti-Indian protests in Sri Lanka today over the presence of Indian troops on the island, police said.

They said the student was killed in Teledeniya near the hill resort of Kandy. Police opened fire as the crowd attacked the barracks, killing the student and wounding about six others.

Students also poured onto the streets of Colombo and about half a dozen towns in nearby provinces demanding the withdrawal of the estimated 45,000 Indian troops on the island fighting Tamil separatists.

They also demanded the resignation of the government and in one case set fire to a jeep belonging to a junior minister.

Simultaneously, a group of Tamil students demonstrated in the eastern city Batticaloa, asking the Indian soldiers to remain, witnesses said.

The rival demonstrations underlined the different views held by the majority Sinhalese community in the southern areas and some minority Tamils in the northeast on President Ranasinghe Premadasa's call for the total withdrawal of the Indian force by the end of next month.

However, India informed Sri Lanka it is impossible to complete the withdrawal of Indian peacekeeping troops by July 29, newspapers reported today.

Premadasa, who took office last January pledging the Indian force would leave the country, dispatched an envoy to New Delhi this week to discuss the proposed withdrawal.

The envoy, Foreign Secretary Bernard Tilakarajah, was informed that India felt it wasn't the best time for a troop withdrawal when he met Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and other officials, the Statesman newspaper said.

About 45,000 Indian soldiers remain in Sri Lanka.

Floods recede in Sri Lanka

Dot moves out to sea

COLOMBO, June 7. (AP): High water slowly receded today in central and southern Sri Lanka after five days of flooding and mudslides that killed at least 315 people, officials said.

Rescue workers carrying food and medicine have reached the inland hill areas worst affected by the mudslides that started Saturday night, according to D.J. Wijesundera, director of the social service department.

More than 200,000 people were left homeless by the mudslides and floods, including 60,000 who were forced to flee from Colombo's northern suburbs, said Wijesundera and other officials.

The Kelaniya River, which winds north of the capital to the sea, surged over its banks Monday night and yesterday, swollen by flood waters pouring down from the central hills.

But by today morning, the Kelaniya had dropped about 2.3 centimetres (one inch) in 13 hours, said Upali Delpechira, deputy director of the irrigation department.

The water level in the Kelaniya river declined from 9 feet 2 inches (2.794 metres) to nine feet 1 inch (2.768 metres), Delpechira said.

"The situation is under control, and waters are expected to recede very slowly," he said.

He added that walls of sandbags had been erected to protect more villages near Colombo.

Most of the 315 reported deaths occurred in the hills and valleys of the Kegalle district, about 70 kilometres (45 miles) northeast of Colombo. Entire villages of thatched huts were buried after a torrential downpour on Saturday triggered landslides of mud and rocks already loosened by a month-long monsoon.

The meteorology department said only light rains were forecast Wednesday for the island nation in the Indian Ocean.

■ Tropical storm Dot moved out to the South China Sea today, dumping heavy rain over Manila and a wide area of the country, the weather bureau said.

There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage from the storm's peak winds of 47 miles (75 kilometres) an hour. Officials feared flooding, but said no problems had been reported so far.

The government's chief weather forecaster, Eduardo Parong, said that by 9 am (0100 GMT) Dot's "eye," or centre, was over the South China Sea some 160 miles (256 kilometres) southwest of Manila. It was moving west-northwest at 14 miles (22 kilometres) per hour.

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Call to cancel out Third World debt

Kuwait launches fresh appeal at UN

UNITED NATIONS, June 7. (KUNA): Kuwait yesterday launched a fresh appeal for a meeting of debtor and creditor nations with a view to easing the burden on developing countries exacerbated by population pressures.

Speaking in the government council of the UN development Programme (UNDP) which is meeting here this month, Mariam Abdul Karim Al Awadi urged that the UN fund for

population activities assumes the co-ordination with UN specialised agencies in order to convene the meeting.

Debt

The aim of such a meeting would be to elaborate a worldwide plan of action taking into account the proposals made by the Amir of Kuwait on the debt problem last September before the General Assembly.

In his message, the Amir urged

creditors to cancel out the accumulated debt of their debtor countries and invited the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to revise the conditions for countries seeking aid.

Awadi is Assistant Under-secretary for Technical Cooperation in the Ministry of Planning.

"The external debt burden constitutes a "real catastrophe" for the people of the Third World," she said. "It is increasing

and it is becoming a focal point in the conflict between debtor and creditor countries."

Challenge

In this way, she said, the problem is transcending its purely financial, monetary or technical context, and is becoming a problem with political dimensions.

Awadi stressed the importance of working together in order to cope with the challenges of the demographic explosion

and the debt crisis. "It is time to face the challenge resulting from population growth which is threatening any social and economic development plan and any effort aimed at protecting environmental balance."

"We cannot enjoy the fruit of efforts and sums spent for development if we continue to collect the real collective solution of the problem of the demographic explosion," she said.

Permanent residence law under study

A MINISTERIAL committee will shortly start studying a draft law to grant permanent residence to selected expatriates. The committee consists of ministers of interior, planning, social affairs and labour, and commerce and industry beside representatives of Chamber of Commerce and other relevant establishments in the state.

The draft law was proposed by the population policies committee of their Higher Planning Council within the framework of an inclusive study related to selective immigration to Kuwait.

The Council of Ministers has

made a general study of the Higher Planning Council's report on the population policies during its weekly meeting held last Sunday. The cabinet also discussed the proposals submitted by members of the council about the organisation of population mix in the country.

A local daily reported that according to the draft law the state will select the candidates of the permanent residence according to interests of the country. It added that the Higher Planning Council gave an inclusive project about the numbers and conditions applicable for granting of permanent residence.

BAHRAYN DIGEST

Construction labour force faced with unemployment

EXPATRIATE workforce in Bahrain employed in the construction industry have been facing mounting problems in the course of their jobs because of various factors over the past few years. Since the boom years of the mid-seventies in the wake of the oil bonanza and tremendous economic activities, Bahrain like its neighbouring Gulf states, has been heavily dependent on the overseas labour force in overall economic development, particularly in the building of the island's infrastructure.

However, with the completion of most of the country's infrastructure, ensuing Gulf war transfer of huge capital abroad by private investors, recession and other regional as well as international economic constraints led to rising closure and bankruptcy of Bahrain's construction companies. Suddenly a large number of the island's expatriate labour force in the construction industry faced with the depressing situation of both unemployment and unpaid salary sometimes stretching over several months work.

In an interview with the Arab Times, Hassan Ahmed Bedawi, a leading Bahraini lawyer specialising in expatriate labour cases, highlighted the problems of foreign labourers in the wake of increasing number of bankruptcies faced by several major national construction companies in recent times.

"The root cause of the problem lies with the great number of Bahraini construction companies going bankrupt for several reasons. Owners of such companies do not always get involved in proper management and planning of their firms, but act more as advisers, consequently transactions of vital deals worth millions of dinars is affected," explained Bedawi.

According to Bedawi the problems faced by construction companies owners were further exacerbated by mounting interest rates of banks on outstanding business loans.

"Banks started to press for their loans and in many cases began legal action against construction debtors. Owners faced the problem of not being able to meet daily expenses on material and labour costs, thereby compelled to be unable to honour contracts of current projects. In extreme cases liquidation of the company followed, resulting with employees without jobs," said Bedawi.

According to this prominent lawyer, Bahrain's Ministry of Labour is committed to look into the problems of an expatriate worker. Maximum priority is accorded to law to any worker, who is facing employment problems. Every effort is made by the authorities to solve worker's problems and to protect his or her rights.

"The law is there to help these people. But they must come forward and take the initiative and not be afraid and go into hiding."

Nearly 50 per cent of Bahrain's workforce in the construction are expatriates of mainly South Asian origin.

Friday market undoubtedly a shoppers paradise

THE Friday Market is one of the most comprehensive markets in Kuwait, where shoppers can find birds, cats, dogs, fish, plants, books, children's games, musical instruments and ornaments at cheap prices.

The Friday Market witnesses a large cross-section of customers and shoppers every Friday morning. A local daily interviewed a number of vendors and customers who stressed the importance of preserving what they called an all purpose location. Other shoppers called for expanding the Friday Market and preventing

automobiles from entering it.

Jabbar Muhsen, a vendor said that he has been selling birds for 11 years and added that sales are higher during winter than summer. He added that he has been working at the Friday Market location for five years now and that he sells more during Fridays. Profit range from KD15 and 30 on these days, he said.

One of the shoppers said that officials should pay more attention to the Friday Market and should organise its operations on a more professional level.

Another shopper said that the market is too small. He pointed out that the Friday Market is one of the traditional markets in Kuwait and therefore officials should endeavour to upgrade existing facilities.

The daily also interviewed a group of Arab youth who had displayed various species of birds for sale in one of the stalls at the Friday Market. One of the youths said that he looks forward to Friday as it gives him an opportunity to realise monetary gains from his hobby, which is breeding various types of birds. He added that

his family encourages him in his endeavour as they feel he is not only augmenting the meagre income of his father, but more importantly constructively making use of his leisure hours.

Mahmoud went on to say that he has a dream — he longs to be a specialist in raising hunting hawks. He said this fine bird is the proud possession of every Arab hunter and is highly prized. I intend in a very short time to have some of the best falcons in this part of the Arab world, he said.

Which is more difficult: chopping heads or cutting off hands?

Frankly speaking, it is easier to chop a head since this act means the end of the story for the criminal. Chopping off a hand needs more courage, since you are cutting a part of the body of an individual who is to survive. The cutting itself needs very skilled attention to ensure that the chopping tool does not slip or cut in the wrong place. Psychologically, I feel some reluctance in these cases.

Over the years of carrying out your job, have you been faced with any unusual scenes?

Yes, many. One of the stories I recall happened in the city of Mecca. A decree was issued to execute two people who were involved in killing their colleague. At that time there was no ruling that the eyes of the executed had to be covered with a black cover. The two were standing beside each other. Following

Do you mix easily with the people of your community etc?

Yes, I do. The job involves a lot of fun sometimes and when I sit with relatives or friends, I hear from them jokes etc. Once I joked with the Crown Prince His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz and said to him: "Your Royal Highness, the market these days suffers a lot of recession! No heads to chop! No wrists to cut!"

— Al Madina

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Saudi Arabia's appointed head chopper

The executioner

SAEED AL SAYAF is a very special man, and a very social one. Socially, he enjoys good relations with his neighbours, his colleagues and those around him.

But in his special job he faces many difficult situations. He is the appointed executioner for the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and has wielded his famous sword 600 times in more than 35 years.

He is happy in his work, carrying out the dictates of justice on criminals who have transgressed against the Sharia, the Islamic Law.

An employee of the Ministry of Interior, Al Sayaf is 60 years old, the father of 25 sons and daughters, he has had 24 wives over the last 40 years and he has been an executioner since he was 23. In his job he uses a sword for men, a pistol for women.

A writer for Al Madina, Saudi Arabia's most prestigious daily newspaper, recently interviewed him in Jeddah. The following is a record of their conversation:

How did you become an executioner?

I am from the village of Bisha, in the governorate of Asir. I worked as a farmer, like the other members of my family and small community. At the age of 20 I moved to Riyadh to look for a better job and enrolled in the army. Whenever I had time to spare I used to go and watch the executioners at work. I began to think that I could do the job just as well and I told my colleagues in the unit that I was interested in doing it. My physical size was an advantage when my colleagues conveyed my interest to the authorities in Riyadh. At the time it was a joke, but it developed into a serious joke.

Some time later I was called to see an official for an interview. He offered me the job and I accepted it, as a hobby. At that



Saeed Al Sayaf...he wields at the end of the long arm of the law a golden sword

the announcement I chopped off

the head of one of them, and the head fell directly in front of the other criminal. When I went towards the other to finish the job, he stared at me very strangely. I had no sympathy at that moment and was about to lift my sword when suddenly the man collapsed and fell to the ground. A doctor examined him and said that he had had a heart attack, and that his heart had stopped beating. While he was being carried to the cemetery to be buried, his voice was heard asking for water. I was called immediately and when I looked at him he uttered a few words: "Won't you spare me?" This scene was a very strange one and I remember it vividly.

Have you ever dealt with the execution of a group of criminals at one time?

This was in early 1400 H (1979), when a group of 15 smashed into the mosque of Mecca to prevent people from doing their prayers, and circulated papers calling for the adoption of ideologies against Islam. They were sentenced to death, and I had to chop the heads off 12 of them. Three were left for someone else to execute.

Is there a specific sword you use?

Yes, a sword presented to me by His Royal Highness Prince Ahmad bin Abdul Aziz, Deputy Minister of the Interior. I use this as my only weapon in executing male criminals.

Do all of those you execute die immediately after the first hit?

Most of them. Very few need another hit and rarely is a third necessary.

Is there anyone else in your family doing the same job?

Actually, the Governor of Mecca, His Royal Highness Prince Saudi bin Abdul Mohsin bin Abdul Aziz has asked me on many occasions to train one or two of my sons. I have already started giving training to my son Mohammed. However I have not yet given him the opportunity to carry out an execution but I do feel that he knows the job. I can say, though, that a number of my relatives are reluctant at the thought of my training them.

Do you mix easily with the people of your community etc?

Yes, I do. The job involves a lot of fun sometimes and when I sit with relatives or friends, I hear from them jokes etc. Once I joked with the Crown Prince His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz and said to him: "Your Royal Highness, the market these days suffers a lot of recession! No heads to chop! No wrists to cut!"

— Al Madina

Job in progress

NEWS IN BRIEF

Premier receives

KUWAIT, June 7, (KUNA): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah today received in audience State Minister for Services Affairs Issa Al Maziadi, State Minister for Municipality Affairs Mohamed Abdul Mohsen Al Refai, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saad Mohammed Al Ossaimi, Planning Minister Abdul Rahman Al Awadi and State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed.

Sheikh Saad also received Fares Al Wugayan and Kuwait's permanent representative to the UN European headquarters in Geneva Dr Salim Jaber Al Ahmed.

He also chaired a meeting of the Supreme Council for Planning.

Premier's message

KUWAIT, June 7, (KUNA): His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah today received a message from the Jordanian Crown Prince Al Hassan Bin Talal.

Medal for Ateeqi

AMMAN, June 7, (KUNA): The Jordanian monarch today issued a decree to award the adviser of HH the Amir of Kuwait, Abdel Rahman Al Ateeqi the Jordanian Star medal for his contribution in constructing Al Salt Cultural Centre.

The Friends of Al Salt City Society, was established at the initiative of Ateeqi who has extended generous donations to build that centre.

Minister leaves

KUWAIT, June 7, (KUNA): Sudanese Defence Minister Mubarak Osman Rahma described his visit to Kuwait as successful and very positive.

In a pre-departure statement today, Rahma said that during his four-day official visit to Kuwait he held talks with his Kuwait counterpart Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed that tackled all issues related to bilateral cooperation.

He noted that the two sides agreed on all topics of discussion.

He expressed satisfaction over meeting HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah and HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah.

The Sudanese minister has delivered messages to HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Premier from Sudanese Prime Minister Al Sadiq Al Mahdi.

Rahma was seen off at the airport by Sheikh Nawaf and senior officials at the Defence Ministry.

Better channels

MINISTER of State for Cabinet Affairs and acting chairman of the Civil Service Council Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed will preside over a meeting of top-government officials. The meeting to be held next Saturday will discuss matters relating to the ongoing administrative development in the country, aimed at developing better channels to pursue government staff performance and streamlining public formalities.

The meeting will be held at the Kuwait Fund for Socio-economic Development and will be attended by 50 undersecretaries to discuss views on various development plans, with special emphasis on the qualitative range desired by HH the Amir.

Anti-smoking drive

HE Kuwait Anti-Smoking Society's secretary Dr Hussein Momen has said that a number of obstacles prevented the implementation of 50 per cent additional customs duties on tobacco imports.

Meanwhile, a local daily quoted official sources as saying at their last meeting in Kuwait endorsed the 50 per cent increase on tobacco. However, only Bahrain and Oman endorsed the increase.

Momen said that about 70 per cent of smokers abstained from smoking during the 'Give-up Smoking Day' stressing the need for an all-out sincere effort to help smokers to break this habit.

WEATHER

NORMAL summer weather with moderate north-westerly wind may return at times.

Sea: moderate
High water: 4.00 am, 2.00 am
Low water: 9.00 am, 10.00 pm
Sunrise: 4.48 am
unset: 6.46 pm
maximum temperatures recorded:
air: 45°C 115°F
humidity: 42°C 108°F
solar: 42°C 108°F

minimum temperatures recorded:
air: 37°C 99°F
humidity: 39°C 102°F
solar: 39°C 102°F
maximum temperatures expected:
air: 46°C 115°F
humidity: 43°C 109°F
solar: 43°C 109°F
maximum humidity recorded:
air: 19 per cent
humidity: 26 per cent
solar: 25 per cent

21 juvenile delinquents apprehended in Jahra

Midnight curfew in governorate

By Mohammed Al Barjas

GOVERNOR of Jahra Sheikh Salem Sabah Al Nasser was quoted as saying that security men of the governorate have apprehended 21 juvenile delinquents alleged to have harassed citizens at the governorate and other areas. He added that the parents of these juveniles had undertaken through written affidavits to be responsible for any mis-

behaviour that might be committed by their children in the future.

In an interview with Al Seyassah, the governor said that the security men of the governorate were patrolling different areas of the governorate to ensure law and order.

He added that the governorate will not waiver in implementing its scheme to ban any person from loitering after 12.00 mid-

night, adding that juvenile motorcyclists will be banned from using their motorcycles in the streets and quarters of Jahra.

He clarified that the governorate was not imposing any restrictions on freedom, but some criteria must be followed and respected by all. Restaurants and cafeterias at the governorate will remain closed after midnight he said, pointing out that these facilities provided an

opportunity for unscrupulous elements to meet.

Meanwhile, the governor said that incidents of thefts at the governorate had been minimised significantly due to the vigilance of security personnel. He added that traffic accidents had also dropped in view of the co-operation between citizens and security men.

On the other hand, the governor said

that he greatly appreciated the kind gesture of HH the Amir towards meeting with the governors, adding that the encouragement of HH the Amir at the said meeting has boosted the morale of the authorities and personnel.

He added that the governors were looking forward to being provided with more powers to contribute to better performance.



Pilots graduate

A graduation ceremony for beginner and advanced pilots who underwent a training course on Gazal planes was held yesterday at Al Al Salem Air Base. Assistant Chief of Staff of the Kuwaiti armed forces, Major General Jaber Al Khaled Al Sabah, Commander of the Air Force, Brigadier Dawood Al Ghanim and a number of Bahraini pilots also took part in the course.

DGCA cannot be independent yet

Airport security adequate

DIRECTOR General of Directorate General for Civil Aviation Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah was quoted as saying that transferring of the directorate into an independent authority entails bringing about a balance between revenues and services.

In an interview with a local daily, the official said that the absence of such a balance and the imperative need for covering the exorbitant costs of expansion witnessed by the country's civil aviation has temporarily postponed the idea calling for making the directorate work on an economic basis.

He added that the directorate is carrying out five-year plans for providing national cadres to undertake responsibilities after expansion and to grand Kuwaitis some posts.

He added that the directorate is working to avert either shortage or redundancy in the staff by redistributing manpower.

Replies to a question, the official expressed hopes that some airline companies such as Iranian Airlines and USA's TWA will resume their flights to Kuwait following the ceasefire between Iran and Iraq. He added that the landing fees at Kuwait International Airport is the best and accordingly the idea of establishing a new airport has been disregarded.

Expansion

Speaking on security measures at Kuwait International Airport, the official said that this issue is being accorded priority the world over and several studies in this connection were set up by IATA. He added that the appendix 17 of the Chicago Agreement has been issued which relates to aviation security in addition to aviation directory which has been designed to guide governments during setting up of the necessary security strategy.

Sheikh Jaber disclosed that the security team of the International Transport Union and the USA Aviation Security team, paid inspection visits to several international airports throughout the world and praised the security measures adopted at Kuwait International Airport.

He clarified that Kuwait International Airport has been provided with the latest technology to visualise the contents of passengers luggage including handbags.

Speaking of the airport taxi service, the official said a new system governing this service had been set up, and pointed out that the new system had been designed to upgrade the service by applying unified fares. Taxi services at the airport will be around-the-clock. The new procedures will be supervised by the airport administration and an elected committee of taxi drivers, the official said.

On the directorate's budget, Sheikh Jaber said that the Civil Aviation budget had amounted to about KD1.6 million. He disclosed that the directorate's revenues had amounted to KD1.360,000 during the fiscal year 1987/1988. He expected that during the current fiscal year

behaviour that might be committed by their children in the future.

In an interview with Al Seyassah, the governor said that the security men of the governorate were patrolling different areas of the governorate to ensure law and order.

He added that the governorate will not waiver in implementing its scheme to ban any person from loitering after 12.00 mid-

night, adding that juvenile motorcyclists will be banned from using their motorcycles in the streets and quarters of Jahra.

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that he greatly appreciated the kind gesture of HH the Amir towards meeting with the governors, adding that the encouragement of HH the Amir at the said meeting has boosted the morale of the authorities and personnel.

He added that the governors were looking forward to being provided with more powers to contribute to better performance.

Fraternal spirit at GCC conference

Focus on Iraq-Iran peace process

KUWAIT, June 7. (Agencies): Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed returned home today after taking part in the 31st session of GCC Foreign Ministers Conference, concluded in Jeddah today.

Speaking upon his arrival, Sheikh Sabah said a spirit of fraternity and understanding dominated the meeting which focused on the situation in the region particularly the Iraq-Iran peace process.

Sheikh Sabah said the ministerial council of the six-member Gulf Co-operation Council had voiced support to UN secretary-general's efforts aimed at reaching a comprehensive and lasting peace that would establish peace and stability in the region.

He added that in this connection the council stressed the importance of continuing efforts with the concerned parties and Security Council member states.

Summit

He said the council welcomed the resolution of the recent emergency Arab summit in this regard and stressed that the ceasefire between Iraq and Iran should be a springboard toward comprehensive and lasting peace between the two countries.

On the Arab situation, especially that in Lebanon, Sheikh Sabah said "we welcome the emergency Arab summit's resolution concerning the situation in Lebanon and hoped that the supreme tri-partite committee would succeed in reaching the desired solution that will maintain Lebanon's stability, security and sovereignty and its territorial integrity."

He said the council also



Sheikh Sabah

reiterated support to the ongoing Palestinian uprising and hoped that summit's ad hoc committee on the Palestinian question would realise its goals.

GCC Secretary-General Abdalla Yaqoub Bishara arrived in the same plane which flew in Sheikh Sabah.

Sheikh Sabah was greeted upon arrival by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Mohamed Al Ossaimi, the Ministry's Undersecretary Suliman Majed Al Shaheen and other senior officials from the ministry.

In a statement issued after the two day meeting and carried by the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) GCC ministers made a pledge that they would maintain efforts to achieve progress in Iraqi-Iranian peace.

Bahrain's Foreign Minister, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, who chaired the meeting, told the opening session on yesterday the GCC was committed to Iran-Iraq peace efforts.

Peace talks between Iran and Iraq, sponsored by the United Nations, have been deadlocked since they started on Aug 23, five days after a ceasefire ended eight years of war.

Financial co-operation progressing: Khorafi

FINNACE Minister Jassem Al Khorafi has said that financial co-operation among the GCC states is progressing, though slowly. He added in an interview with a local daily that such co-operation requires sufficient time to achieve outstanding results.

Commenting on the agenda of the GCC financial and economic co-operation committee meeting that will be held in Riyadh on June 22, Khorafi said that the committee will study a memorandum submitted by the GCC Secretariat about continuation of talks to unify customs tariff by the GCC states on the foreign imports.

Khorafi added that the committee will also discuss the organisation of possessing real estate by the GCC states. He added that committee will study the unified system to supervise and control insurance work in the GCC states.



Farewell reception

THE Turkish Ambassador to Kuwait Guner Oztek hosted a reception at his residence to say farewell to Counsellor and Mrs Gursel Demirok, who leave Kuwait shortly. Diplomats, Kuwaiti officials and journalists attended the reception. Pictures show (from left) Mrs Demirok, Demirok, Mrs Oztek and the host pictured at the reception. (Photo by Javed Basra)

Eight family health centres in 1990

Family doctors to be graded

By Mahmoud Mura

THE Ministry of Public Health is currently studying a proposal on family doctors grade system and financial incentives.

The proposal presented by the Family Medicine College at Kuwait Institute for Medical Specialisations is intended to grant family doctors the same work and financial benefits as specialists registered at hospitals.

The proposed project has also suggested reconsideration of the classification of doctors at health centres.

The head of Family Medicine College at Kuwait Institute for Medical Specialities, and head of the Family Medicine Training Unit at the Ministry of Public Health, Dr Masoor Sarkoh told "Seyassah" that an ideal family doctor grade system should go through a minimum eight year period. He pointed out that increments are judged through examination results, annual evaluations in the field and researches and studies conducted by doctors.

He stressed that the door is open for every qualified doctor to enter the family medicine field.

Sarkoh represented Kuwait at the First Academic Conference held in Bahrain from May 21-22. On the other hand, Sarkoh announced that a number of doctors who obtained Family Medicine Diploma Certificates from Kuwait Institute for Medical Specialisations in co-operation with the Royal British College have been transferred to health centres after graduation last March. He pointed out that Kuwait now has five family medicine health centres. Maida Hawalli, Qadesiya,

Shamia, Abdullah Al Salem, and Hadiya. The family medicine system was implemented at said Maida Hawalli and Qadesiya health centres last March, he said.

Success

He added that Kuwait has been successful in implementing the family medicine system. He said that a new batch of 12 family doctors will graduate from the institute next November which will provide a good opportunity to implement the system at other health centres.

Meanwhile, Sarkoh stated that the parallel training programme designed for currently working physicians will continue. He added that a new batch of 24 doctors will be accepted in this programme next October and another batch of doctors will graduate in January 1990.

The parallel training programme now includes 120 doctors, all of whom will be transferred to health centres for training. "This means that Kuwait will have eight family medicine health centres as of the beginning of 1990, in addition to 22 health centres working with the general medicine system.

Sarkoh stressed that the family medicine system is characterised by its ability to diagnose each family, in addition to the fact that family doctors will personally present services to individuals and families registered at respective clinics.

Regarding the Bahrain Conference, Sarkoh said that it aimed at explaining the essential features of family medicine in different countries. During the conference, delegations looked at different first aid techniques. He pointed out that ten foreign and Arab countries participated in the conference.

Demand for martyr's body

KUWAIT, June 7. (KUNA): Secretary-General of Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) has demanded recovery of the body of the Kuwaiti national Fawzi Abdul Rasoul Ibrahim Al Majadi who was killed in a commando operation against an Israeli military post in Misratah last Sunday.

In a message to the president of the Geneva-based International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), secretary-general of KRCS said "we urge you to move swiftly and make the necessary contacts and arrangements to recover the body of the martyr and hand it over to his bereaved family."

"In this respect, you must be aware of the fact that, in many cases, the Israeli government never hesitates to violate all established rules and norms to recover bodies of its soldiers killed in military aggressions waged against the Arabs from time to time," the message read.

The message said the young Kuwaiti citizen had sacrificed his soul fighting for principles he had believed in, the justice of the Palestinian people's cause and the illegitimate Israeli occupation of Arab lands.

Active role for private sector

THE Chairman of Kuwait's Chamber of Commerce and Industry Abdulaziz Hamad Al Saqer was quoted as saying that the chamber is currently preparing a unified formula for the recommendation set up by the five working teams that were empowered to study the country's economic situation.

In an interview with a local daily, the official said that the formula will be submitted to HH the Crown Prince and Premier. The difficult debt crisis and the relevant solutions to address this problem are priority issues of the studies that the chamber is currently involved in. Saqer was quoted as saying. However, it is premature to discuss details of the final recommendations, the official added.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Qaboos' speech

MADRID, June 7. (AP): Sultan Qaboos Bin Said of Oman today told parliament he supports an international Middle East peace conference to achieve "just and total" peace in the region.

The Sultan, on the second and final day of his state visit to Spain, said he hoped trade between the two countries could reach the same levels as political co-operation, which he described as excellent.

In his speech to both houses of parliament, the Sultan praised Spain for its positive role "in defence of all just causes and toward the consolidation of world peace."

Sharjah destroys pork

ABU DHABI, June 7. (Reuters): The Gulf emirate of Sharjah destroyed 47 tonnes of pork seized from its department stores in a crackdown on banned products, officials in the United Arab Emirates said today.

Sharjah, one of seven emirates making up the UAE, in 1985 banned alcohol and other items prohibited under Islam, including pork.

Iraqi medicine

BAGHDAD, June 7. (AP): An Iraqi researcher claims that a form of the herb ephamone, found in northern Iraq, can lower cholesterol levels.

Hamam Al Joubouri, head of the pharmacology department at Baghdad Medical College, told the Associated Press that the herb known in Iraq as behoun or behouna has been tested and proved effective in lowering cholesterol levels.

Sudan probe

KHARTOUM, June 7. (Reuters): Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi launched a speedy probe yesterday into alleged mismanagement by his cousin and Interior Minister, Mubarak Al Fadil Al Mahdi.

A cabinet statement broadcast on Radio Omdurman said Mahdi told Sudan's auditor-general to lead the investigation and report to him in 10 days.

Students demonstration

ISTANBUL, June 7. (AP): Muslim fundamentalist students demonstrated yesterday against those in Turkey who objected to any sign of mourning for the death of the Ayatollah Khomeini in Iran, the semi-official Anatolia news agency said.

The agency said students protested in front of Istanbul University, burned Turkish newspapers and hung a banner denouncing "infidel and hypocrites."

Locust plague

ROME, June 7. (Reuters): Swarms of locusts believed to have been eradicated by dry weather and pesticides are plaguing West Africa again. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) said today.

Only two months after the FAO said Africa's worst plague in 30 years was virtually over, the organisation reported locusts moving rapidly eastwards from Mauritania, Mali and Niger.

Cyprus ambassadors

NICOSIA, June 7. (AP): The government on Monday announced sweeping changes in senior diplomatic postings with new envoys appointed to Washington, Moscow, and the United Nations.

A new ambassador to Mexico and high commissioner to Australia also were named.

Hostage's wife

FORT COLLINS, Colorado, June 7. (AP): Jean Sutherland, whose husband, Thomas, will have been held hostage in Lebanon for four years on Friday, has returned home to Fort Collins to recoup her strength and complete a "personal odyssey."

"I feel that the purpose of this time, at four years, to recommit for how long it takes," said Mrs. Sutherland, who has spent most of the past four years in Beirut.

Political asylum

KHARTOUM, June 7. (Reuters): An Ethiopian Air Force pilot flew a MiG-23 fighter to Sudan and asked for political asylum, Khartoum newspapers said today.

Al Ayani and Al Usbi said they quoted the unnamed pilot as saying after arriving yesterday that he had fled harassment by Air Force authorities.

Sudan denial

KHARTOUM, June 7. (AP): Sudan today accused Chadian President Hissene Habre of trying to divert attention from its internal conflict in Chad by accusing Sudan and Libya of plotting a military attack against him.

A strong statement by the Foreign Ministry reiterated that Habre's accusations are "baseless and unfounded" and said Chad wants to disguise its internal problems by claiming foreign aggression to gain the world's sympathy.

Saudi prince's mansion

ASPEN, June 7. (AP): Prince Bandar of Saudi Arabia has cleared another hurdle toward building a 55,000-square-foot (5,109-square-metre) mansion in the Starwood area north west of Aspen.

The Aspen-Pitkin County Planning Commission yesterday adopted a resolution approving the sprawling structure, dependent on several restrictions. Pitkin county commissioners, whose approval still is needed, are scheduled to review the plan on June 27.

Soldier defects

NICOSIA, June 7. (Reuters): An Iraqi soldier has defected to Iran, the first to do so since a ceasefire between the two countries last August, the Iranian news agency IRNA said today.

It quoted an official from the border province of Isam as saying the soldier crossed into Iran in the Chist-Dehloran area about 280 km (170 miles) southeast of Baghdad yesterday.

Don't take advantage in Iran, US to tell Soviets

WASHINGTON, June 7. (Reuters): US and Soviet officials will hold talks on the Middle East this month in which the Americans are expected to urge Moscow not to take advantage of the uncertainty in Iran after the death of Ayatollah Khomeini, a senior US official said yesterday.

The talks, scheduled to take place in Washington the week of

The official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said the administration saw Iran as a test of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's new thinking and his expressed vow not to seek "unilateral advantage" in key regions over the West.

By contrast, Gorbachev has

June 16, continue discussions on regional issues begun during the Reagan administration.

After Khomeini's death, Bush called on the new Iranian government on Monday to help release American hostages in Lebanon if it wants improved relations with the United States.

sent condolences to Tehran and said Khomeini helped improve relations between their two countries.

In addition to Iran, the discussions are expected to focus on US efforts to promote elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as a means of drawing Israelis and Palestinians into direct peace

negotiations.

The election proposal, advanced by Israel, also will be discussed in Tunis tomorrow at a meeting between PLO representative Hakam Balawi and US Ambassador Robert Pelletreau.

Despite public statements rejecting the Israeli plan, US officials said two weeks ago the

PLO accepted the concept of elections and gave the State Department a written proposal.

On Tuesday, the senior US official said the PLO proposal had put forth a number of conditions that could force the proposal to be scuttled.

But he expressed optimism about recent signs the PLO, and

Palestinians in the occupied territories, were serious about working a plan acceptable to them and Israel.

The US has made it clear to these groups that it views poll as the best vehicle for moving the peace process forward and has no plans to come up with an alternative vehicle.



Qassem buried

Israeli policemen wielding clubs strike into a crowd of Palestinians after the funeral of Omar Al Qassem, whose body (below) was carried through an East Jerusalem street. Qassem died of illness after spending 21 years in an Israeli jail. (Reuters wirephoto)

Kabul says no to peace deal

Najibullah a reality

KABUL, June 7. (Agencies): Afghanistan rejected today suggestions by the United States and Pakistan that President Najibullah should step down as a condition for peace talks with Muslim rebels.

"They have to settle all problems with President Najibullah, nobody else. This is our leader, they should sit for talks with him," said Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil.

"President Najibullah is the President of this country. That is the reality and they should take into account this fact," he said in a defiantly-worded interview.

He said the government was getting stronger, particularly since the Soviet troops withdrew in February, winning rebel commanders over to its side and pushing back the mujahedeen attack around the besieged eastern city of Jalalabad.

If the Western-backed mujahedeen rebels wanted peace they would have to negotiate a settlement with Najibullah's government.

He said suggestions that the communist-based People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) should step aside in favour of a neutral government, the drawing up of a new constitution and nation-wide elections.

Najibullah's government has defied some Western predictions that it would crumble after Soviet forces withdrew.

Libyan exile warns Egyptians against Khaddafi

CAIRO, June 7. (Reuters): A leading Libyan exile, vowing to topple Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi, warned Egyptians today not to trust Tripoli despite its improving ties with Cairo.

"We can't trust Khaddafi for one day and feel it is our duty in the interest of Libya and the Arab world to carry on with our struggle to overthrow him," Mohammad Youssouf Al

Mogarief said.

Mogarief, secretary general of the Egyptian-backed National Front for the Salvation of Libya (NFSL), said that the front's activities would not be affected by Egypt-Libya reconciliation.

President Hosni Mubarak told a Kuwaiti daily this week that Egypt would protect political exiles, but would not let them use Cairo as a base for their

Army-man kills 6 in rampage

KHARTOUM, June 7. (AP): An Army technician went berserk and killed six people in a five-minute rampage with a machine gun, police said. Other soldiers overpowered and captured the maniac.

Col Ibrahim Al Kafy, director of River Transport Corp, police units in Khartoum, said Army Cpl Mohamed Deng Fadilah, 35, was "in a very bad psychological state" after yesterday morning's incident.

A witness said he was "calm and aloof" and "sometimes appeared to be lost."

In a statement issued last night, this is what Al Kafy said happened:

Fadilah was wounded temporarily on the third floor of the riverboat Wadi Halfa, which serves as sleeping quarters for visiting Army personnel.

He awoke, got out of his bed, grabbed his machine gun and started shooting randomly. All three people sleeping in the room were killed.

The corporal descended to the second floor and opened fire on four people sleeping in a room there. Two of them died immediately, another died in hospital and the seventh survived his wounds.

Two of the dead were civilians, the statement said. It was unclear why they were sleeping in the soldiers' quarters.

The statement said the shooting spree lasted five minutes. Fadilah, an electronics technician in Khartoum on an official mission, was overpowered by other soldiers about 90 minutes later.

saying in the past that he had dreamed of ruling Egypt and that Egyptians were a people with no leader.

Egypt has in the past accused Libya of trying to kill exiled Libyans living in Cairo and plotting sabotage.

Egypt and Libya, foes since the early 1970s, reopened their borders last week and officials exchanged visits.

activities.

Mogarief, head of the Libyan audit bureau from 1972-1977 and a former ambassador to India, said the NFSL would not be affected as it was not based in Cairo.

The NFSL, the biggest exiled anti-Khaddafi group, has offices in several countries and military training facilities in Chad.

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Closing ranks behind Khamenei

(Continued from Page 1)

placed on stretchers for transfer to first aid stations.

Iran's official media said almost 11,000 people were injured in three days of mourning since Khomeini's death on Saturday, with 438 taken to hospital.

Tehran radio quoted an unidentified health service official as saying "many died" but no figures were given. Eight people were reported dead on Monday.

Khomeini, 86, died in a Tehran hospital of a heart attack 11 days after undergoing surgery May 23 for internal bleeding.

Khamenei, considered a moderate, was voted his successor on Sunday by 60 out of 74 experts who were handpicked by Khomeini in the early days of the revolution to handle the succession issue.

But his appointment appeared a stop-gap measure to fill a political vacuum while constitutional reforms are prepared for approval in a referendum to be held Aug. 18.

Iranians also will vote for a new president that day with Khamenei, 49, barred from running for a third four-year term under the constitution.

The only candidate so far declared is Rafsanjani, 55, a Khamenei ally and leader of the so-called pragmatists in the regime's infighting between moderates and hardliners.

Khamenei said today Rafsanjani should remain acting commander of the armed forces, Tehran Radio reported.

Khamenei also declared his faith in the Revolutionary Guards.

The Iranian constitution gives command of the armed forces to be leader of the Islamic republic, Khamenei's title. Khomeini appointed Rafsanjani acting commander a year ago after a series of military setbacks against Iraq.

In a show of unity, the leading hardliners, Ardebili and Musavi, joined Rafsanjani and Khamenei in issuing a joint statement today pledging to work together and continue the evolutionary patriarch's policies.

The statement called on Iranians to "close ranks even further and watch out for probable moves and plots of the enemies" of the revolution.

The Revolutionary Guards also declared allegiance to Khamenei.

The appeals for unity also reflected a mood of apprehension in Tehran about a future without Khomeini, whose spiritual and religious authority will not be disputed by rival vermin factions.

Thousands of mourners urged into the capital from other Iranian cities to pray at Khomeini's grave. He was buried yesterday amid frenzied scenes of grief in a Beheshti Zahra cemetery in south Tehran beside others who died in the Gulf war and in the 1979 revolution that brought him to power.

Groups of mourners also left Khomeini's home in the northern Tehran suburb of Maran. A huge portrait of the spiritual leader was placed on his chair which was surrounded by red and white flowers, the colors of the Iranian flag.

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Original final testament left by Khomeini is to be kept in Iran's richest Islamic shrines, the Iranian news agency IRNA said today.

Iranian opposition leaders said they will return from exile after the death of Khomeini, but analysts believe history has not been written.

Former government officials, the son of the late, deposed Shah, are granting interviews and statements. The Mujahideen-e-Khalq rebel army, in Iraq, says its fighters are alert and awaiting the opportune moment to enter action.

Former President Abolhassan Banisadr said he "certainly" will leave his exile home outside Paris to return to Iran, but not say when.

Im. Ahmad Madani, a former defence minister considered a key figure among the exiles, six months as a probable for his return.

Ed Haliloff, professor of national relations at the London School of Economics, issued all the predictions and

none of them counts for anything," he said. "They're all has-beens of one kind or another. All exaggerate their importance. There are plenty of canes inside Iran, and they have to look for retreats." Resident Ghulam Ishaque has said that the new government in Iran has assured that it would spare no effort to strengthen the exiles' relations between Pakistan and Iran.

His friend, who is now back in

NICOSIA, Cyprus, June 7. (AP) In the aftermath of the death of Ayatollah Khomeini, Iran moves into what could be the Islamic Revolution's most decisive phase as rival factions jockey for power.

Some analysis and Iranian opposition figures in exile predict a chaotic struggle for power among Khomeini's heirs. But most observers foresee a transition over many months of bitter, but largely peaceful maneuvering.

The swift action by the 83-member assembly of experts in naming President Ali Khamenei as caretaker ruler Sunday appears to have contained an open struggle for power for the time being.

But it has not eliminated it. The country's political future is more uncertain now than at any period since Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi was toppled in 1979 and Khomeini returned in triumph from exile to found the theocratic Islamic Republic.

In its 10 turbulent years, the republic has endured the hostility of much of the world, bloody internal schisms, a grueling war with Iraq and the humiliation of having to accept a cease-fire after a string of battlefield disasters.

But surviving Khomeini's death and settling the succession issue will be the revolution's most strenuous test.

Even as Khomeini was being buried in Tehran amid scenes of mass anguish among his loyalists, the men he installed in power

were lining up against each other.

On one side are the so-called pragmatists led by Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani and Khamenei, who favour a collective leadership, opening doors to the West and tackling the urgent task of post-war reconstruction.

On the other are the anti-Western radicals under Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, who believe the revolution's survival depends on Iran's pre-eminence in the Muslim world and who seek the spread of Khomeini's fundamentalism.

Opposition groups in exile, including monarchists led by the Shah's son and heavily armed rebels based in Iraq, have largely been sidelined and don't appear to be contenders in the power struggle.

Khomeini died before he could oversee the settlement of the leadership question. That will likely be resolved Aug. 18, when constitutional changes formulated by a 20-man committee Khomeini appointed in April will be put to the nation in a referendum held at the same time as presidential elections.

The constitutional amendments, aimed at eliminating competing centres of power which Khomeini described as flaws and imperfections, will have a far-reaching impact.

If, as seems likely, the committee invests the presidency with wider powers at the expense of the prime minister, the door will be open for a more liberal system which favours the so-called pragmatists.

The committee may also down-

grade the religious credentials

needed for leadership and propose a collective leadership of three to five figures in the Tehran hierarchy.

"In the long run, I'd say the pragmatists will win," said London-based Iran specialist Badeq Mo'in, whose biography of Khomeini will be published soon.

But in the short term, even the pragmatists will have to pretend to be radical in order to survive," he noted.

"Survival is the key question



Members of the Iranian Supreme Judicial Council attend a memorial service for the late Khomeini. (From left to right) Ayatollah Azari Ghomi, President Ali Khamenei, Khomeini's brother, Ayatollah Pasandideh and Khomeini's son, Ahmad Khomeini. (Reuter wirephoto)

ward, to end Iran's isolation that has smothered development.

Iran faces a social explosion in the years ahead. Its population, currently around 55 million, is expected to almost double to 100 million by the end of the century.

The armed forces have pledged allegiance to Khamenei. But the 350,000-man Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, arguably the most powerful component of the armed forces, has been factionalised by the political rivalry in Tehran.

Some analysts believe that it

could well be sucked into the power struggle as rival leaders resort to military muscle to settle the issue of who will govern Iran.

In that scenario, Iran could again face the specter of open warfare between feuding factions as it did in 1980-81.

The 250,000-man regular army, once distrusted and bloodily purged because of its origins under the Shah, emerged from the war as a popular force, its discipline and integrity intact where the Revolutionary Guards were in disarray.



Burnt-out train

Passers by and spectators look over the burnt-out remains of a Beijing to Shanghai passenger train yesterday in north-west Shanghai. The train hit a group of protesting students, seated on the tracks, killing six and injuring six, according to the Liberation Daily newspaper. (Reuter wirephoto)

Personality spotlight

China's best-known dissident

BEIJING: Astrophysicist Fang Lizhi earned his reputation as China's leading dissident with bold calls for political and intellectual freedom that rankled Communist Party leaders and prompted fellow progressives to dub him the "Andrei Sakharov of China."

The 53-year-old professor was expelled from the Communist Party and vilified in January 1987 for allegedly inciting student demonstrations for democracy that rocked China in late 1986.

Two years later, Fang found himself at the centre of a diplomatic storm when Chinese officials barred him from attending a Texas-style barbecue thrown by visiting President Bush. In doing so, Chinese leaders rejected a clear though understated effort by Bush to send a signal to China on human rights.

In the university environment there should be nothing... that allows no questioning of why it must be upheld," Fang said in an apparent criticism of dogmatic adherence to Marxist theories.

His statements made him the most prominent target of a Communist Party campaign against

capitalist trends in China that began in late 1986.

Chinese sources said senior leader Deng Xiaoping ordered Fang expelled from the Communist Party to punish him for siding with students who staged a series of pro-democracy protests in more than a dozen Chinese cities starting in December 1986.

Fang's ideas undoubtedly inspired participants in China's campus unrest. In Peking, students erected handwritten posters quoting Fang as saying democracy was not granted by the party but earned through struggle.

The professor, who was sent to work in a railway gang during the 1966-76 Cultural Revolution, told foreign journalists he sympathized with the students' demands but did not approve of demonstrations.

In January 1989, Fang sent a letter to senior leader Deng Xiaoping asking for an amnesty for political prisoners in China, notably Wei Jingsheng.

Iranian dissident assassinated in Dubai

(Continued from Page 1)

since 1980, at about 4 am on Sunday. He told a friend, another Iranian exile, who met him in the hotel lobby, that he had been followed from the airport. He complained of fatigue and retired to his room where one or more killers are believed to have waited for him. He was found dead by the hotel staff at 9 am on Sunday.

The Iranian, who headed the

Army counter-espionage service

during the Shah years, was part of a group that attempted to overthrow the Islamic Republic and reinstate Shapour Bakhtiar, the last prime minister before the 1979 revolution. Information about the plot was leaked and in the ensuing purge many of the conspirators were executed.

Bahaymadi and several others managed to flee but three were assassinated in Turkey between 1984 and 1986.

The Iranian, who headed the

Chinese government was

largely unscathed except for

poor marks which could have

been made by bullets. Below the

monument there were large areas

of ashes and debris.

State television tonight

showed the first pictures of Tiananmen Square since Sunday.

The camera panned slowly

around the People's Heroes

Monument in the centre of the

square where crowds of students

were said by witnesses to have

been killed.

There was no commentary.

Stains seen on the marble

could have been blood but stone

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

It is easy to be wise after the event — English proverb.

Will Haughey be fifth-time lucky?

Snap election in Ireland

By Paul Majendie

DO the Irish trust Prime Minister Charles Haughey enough to give him a free rein in power?

Four times in his see-saw career they have said no to an overall majority for the self-made millionaire known as the great survivor.

Now, after taking a calculated gamble that could backfire on him, Haughey hopes he will be fifth time lucky in Ireland's general election on June 15.

Then he can concentrate on getting into the history books as the man who righted Ireland's debt-ridden economy.

Haughey's patience ran out when his minority Fianna Fail (Soldiers of Destiny) government was defeated in parliament last month for the sixth time in two years.

He decided on a snap election, with his popularity at an all-time high. Voters praised Haughey, 63, for embarking on a campaign of draconian state-spending cuts to save Ireland from the verge of bankruptcy.

Debt

This export-oriented island on the edge of Europe had built up a mountainous national debt of 25 billion pounds (\$38 billion). He slashed health and education budgets, cut the civil service and negotiated inflation-linked wage rises with unions.

Borrowing has been stabilised, inflation is down to 3.3 per cent and a healthy trade surplus built up.

But almost one in five are still jobless, up to 30,000 people emigrate every year to Australia, Britain and North America, and Ireland ranks behind Greece and Portugal as the third poorest member of the European Economic Community.

Poignant notices have appeared on several doorways in Donegal, the impoverished northwest tip of Ireland, saying "politicians and election workers are requested not to call. Family emigrating next week."

One out of every ten punts produced by the Irish economy still goes in national debt interest repayments and Haughey warned voters that his "hair-shirt economics" are not over yet.

Fine Gael and the Progressive Democrats, the centre-right opposition parties who formed a pre-election coalition, argue that Haughey could not have achieved so much without their help.

In a rare display of consensus in Irish politics, they had backed Haughey's get-tough attitude to the economy. They say an election is irresponsible and unnecessary. Minority status concentrated Haughey's mind, they argue.

Long-time opponent Conor Cruise O'Brien says of this election "if Haughey obtains a majority, then he will be the nearest thing to a dictator that Ireland has yet known."

Critics

Critics argue that Haughey has an almost Napoléonic disdain for his rivals and is ready to crush any opposition in his craving for the overall majority that has always eluded him.

Admirers, who sing "rise up and follow Charlie" at party gatherings, praise him as a streetwise man of the people who can rally the traditional working class support given to his Fianna Fail party and bring in big business as well.

Two major opinion polls conducted in the first half of the three-week campaign show support sliding for Haughey. Still, the bookmakers in this horse racing-mad country make him an overwhelming favourite to retain his job.

With surgery queues building up and hospitals closing, the nation's health has become a big election issue. The opposition pledges to clear the queues with funds from the national lottery.

Local issues often dominate the poll. When Fine Gael leader Alan Duke went to Roscommon, his reception from one local farmer was almost paternal.

The farmer confessed to reporters afterwards: "I kissed his hand. I did indeed. Sure it was no harm and I asked him to get me the old age pension."

The wives of three Army soldiers are standing as independents to publicise their campaign to win more pay for their husbands. "It is a change from making beds and making dinner," one of the campaigning wives said.

Conflict

Less than one in five of the voters consider the guerrilla conflict being waged on their doorstep to be an issue.

Almost 3,000 people have been killed in the 20-year campaign by Irish Republican Army guerrillas to oust Britain from Northern Ireland. Sinn Fein, the IRA's political wing, does not expect to win a single seat in the Dublin parliament.

Austin Currie, one of the founders of the civil rights movement that sought to give the North's Catholic minority better jobs, education and housing, came south to fight the Irish election for Fine Gael.

He is astounded by the cynicism he encounters among Dubliners. "There's far more here than in the north. There people know the score, that it is a choice between the ballot box and the Armalite rifle."

Economic policy differences between the main contenders — Fianna Fail and the centre-right coalition of opposition parties — are marginal.

The left, headed by the Irish Labour Party and the Workers Party, is one of the weakest in Europe and can probably count on garnering only one sixth of the total vote.

So, with unemployment and emigration still too high and the health cuts beginning to bite, the big issue for the voters at their fifth election in eight years will be who is best-equipped to keep Ireland steady on the still rocky road to recovery.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 637 — The Holy Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) dies.
- 1663 — British and Portuguese defeat Spaniards at Almeida.
- 1762 — Russia-Prussia alliance against Austria is concluded.
- 1867 — Prussian troops annex duchy of Holstein.
- 1883 — France, by convention of Marsa with Bey of Tunis, gains effective control of Tunisia.
- 1915 — Allied forces take Neuville in France from Germans in World War I.
- 1925 — Britain and France accept in principle Germany's proposals for security pact to guarantee Franco-German and Belgo-German boundaries.
- 1942 — Japanese submarines shell Sydney, Australia, in World War II.
- 1965 — US troops in Vietnam are authorized to engage in offensive operations.
- 1973 — Spain's Generalissimo Francisco Franco relinquishes some of his power by naming Admiral Luis Carrero Blanco as premier.
- 1976 — Large force of Syrian troops moves into Lebanon, where civil war rages.
- 1987 — Seven civilians die in clash between grenade-throwing Tamil rebels and police commandos on main street of Batticaloa in Sri Lanka.
- 1988 — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze tells United Nations that Moscow would observe permanent moratorium on nuclear testing if United States also agrees.

Muslim Brotherhood set to mount strong challenge

Fundamentalists hope for poll boost in Egypt

By Sara El Gamal

EGYPTIAN elections this week will be a key test for Islamic fundamentalists, the strongest of several fractured opposition groups struggling to make inroads against the powerful ruling party.

The Muslim Brotherhood movement hopes its call for Islamic government will woo voters away from the more pragmatic platform of the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) in Thursday's poll for the Shura council, which recommends laws to parliament.

Political analysts say the Brotherhood, founded in 1928, will not win a majority but looks set to mount a strong challenge. It is possibly the only political group that poses a long-term threat to the government, they add.

Threat

"It is a threat in that many sympathisers are people working away in all fields — trade unions, professional associations, government ministries and even the security forces," said Charles Tripp, a foreign political observer living in Cairo.

The NDP won all 140 seats in the last elections for the council nine years ago. Opposition groups boycotted that poll, saying it would not be held fairly.

The Brotherhood, now standing in alliance with the Socialist Labour Party (SLP) and the Liberal Socialist Party (LSP), hopes it will not suffer from the apathy that Egyptians feel for many opposition groups.

"Opposition parties are smoke with no fire," said taxi driver Mahmoud Mohammed. "All they do is talk, talk, talk, but we don't see anything else from them."

Analysts say neither the Brotherhood nor any other opposition group has put forward a coherent strategy to tackle the country's economic woes.

In one of the most open Arab societies, no charismatic leader has emerged to challenge President Hosni Mubarak by capitalising on discontent over food prices.

The left, preaching socialism with a whiff of 1950s communism, is no longer fashionable.

The traditional centre-right WAFD party, swept to power by a mass following in the 1920s, is a shadow of its former self, its leaders given to reminiscing.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Al Khalid chairs exchange meeting

Budget approved

KUWAIT, June 7. (KUNA): Kuwait's Minister of Commerce and Industry Faisal Al Khalid presided over a meeting here today for the Kuwait Stock Exchange committee.

Al Khalid told reporters following the meeting that the market's next year budget was discussed and approved at the meeting.

The committee, he added, recommended formation of a sub-committee to be entrusted with studying means of developing the budget through increasing revenues and reducing expenditures to cope with new responsibilities.

Responding to a question, the minister said hopes are attached on the sub-committee to take effective measures to patch up the gap in the market's budget and to adopt efficient future plans in co-operation with the market's administration.

The minister said the parallel market was not delayed but a specific date had been set as a prelude for registration of companies in the market, noting that operations in the parallel market have been effective since June 3.

The market's administration and the sub-committee are fully empowered to decide on registration of companies, said the minister.

Al Khalid highlighted that he has no fears from companies' registration in the parallel market as such a decision needs an in-depth study by the companies themselves, particularly the targeted ones.

"We have been targeting the closed Kuwaiti companies that proved actual success and ability to deal with the present and future situations," the minister said.

Al Khalid said the specialized committees are presently looking into a new plan of increasing market's assets which also aims at reinvigorating economy as a whole.

Ministers to discuss ways to strengthen economic ties

KUWAIT, June 7. (KUNA): GCC finance and economics ministers meet in Riyadh today in one of their regular conferences to discuss ways to accelerate economic and financial co-operation among the six members of the Gulf Co-operation Council.

Finance Minister Jassem Mohammed Al Khorafi who will represent Kuwait in the meeting admitted in statements published here today that economic co-operation between GCC members was going at a snail's pace and noted that steps in that direction need ample time.

Khorafi told local daily he and five GCC counterparts will thoroughly review efforts to unify GCC tariffs for dealing with the outside world.

Real-estate ownership in the GCC countries, performance of insurance companies, and incentives for the industrial sector also are key issues to be mooted in the meeting, he added.

He said the topics were not on the agenda of the committee which has been regularly consulting regarding them under review and recommendations of the GCC summit.

United Arab Emirates Minister of State for Finance Affairs and Industry Ahmed Al Tayer left for Riyadh to participate in the GCC economic and financial co-operation committee.

In a departure statement yesterday said that the conferees will discuss important issues and are expected to take decisive resolutions concerning the economic work march.

He added that the ministers will discuss a number of economic issues which the secretariat-general has prepared on the continuation of unifying the GCC member states customs tariffs with the outside world.

Meanwhile, calls for the acceleration of Arab economic integration marked the end in wait of the 69th meeting of the ion board of Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture which wound up last night.

The board took note of a report from the union's general secretariat which pointed out that Arab economies are approaching a new phase in which the private sector is assuming a greater role.

Rare cash offer

Egypt to stave off wheat shortage

CAIRO, June 7. (Reuters): Egypt appears to have staved off a looming wheat shortage by making a rare offer to pay cash and by stitching up deals with foreign creditors.

A month ago, debt-ridden Egypt was warning unofficially that by mid-summer it might not be able to afford the huge imports that supply the Arab world's most populous country with bread.

But foreign analysts say Egypt had now covered wheat supplies for most of September, staving off the spectre of a repeat of food riots that rocked the country in 1977. Subsidised bread is the country's

staple diet.

Recent moves by Egypt, the third largest wheat importer after the Soviet Union and China, include a world tender announced last week for 200,000 tonnes of wheat.

Foreign agriculture experts wonder where Egypt found the money. It would be the first time Cairo, which normally buys on credit, has made a complete purchase for cash since the early 1970s.

"Given the chaotic way the Egyptians run their accounting it is quite possible they just found the money somewhere," a Western expert said.

"Politically they cannot afford to run

out (of bread)," said another. "They understand what their problem is and that they are going to meet their obligations to their people."

France agreed to release 150,000 tonnes of flour after Egypt promised to repay credit of some \$64 million, and the experts said Italy might supply 50,000 tonnes. Some \$30 million in credit has also come from cash since the early 1970s.

Egypt imports about six million tonnes of wheat a year, about 40 percent from the United States and the rest from Australia and the European Economic Community.

Domestic wheat production this year, a

bumper crop, was just 3.2 million tonnes. Import costs are rising as the population of more than 50 million grows quickly and world wheat prices soar. Prices are now twice the level of two or three years ago.

The foreign experts said a shortage could occur later this year. Further credit might be secured from the United States, but other suppliers were wary because of Egypt's failure to repay credits of some \$4 billion.

Egypt, whose total foreign debt is estimated by foreign bankers at \$50 billion, aims to cut imports by growing more food.

OPEC ministers reach agreement on production

(Continued from Page 1)

most probably voice reservations about the agreement.

The extra they would get under a pro rata share of the increased demand for OPEC oil would, on a rough calculation, add up to about 110,000.

Otiba, while saying he was being unfairly treated, has talked of "showing restraint".

Oil traders say OPEC quotas are like speed limits anyway, and the issue is less what they are than by how much they get broken.

The Paris-based International Energy Agency, the West's energy watchdog, sees demand for OPEC oil reaching almost 21 million barrels daily in the second half of the year—enough to accommodate some OPEC quota "leakage" provided heavyweights like Saudi Arabia do not join in.

Iraq's Al Chalabi said after more talks among leading ministers that "we are working towards an agreement."

Libya's Fawzi Shakshouki said the main proposal was for a ceiling at 19.5 million barrels for the next six months and a pro rata share on individual quotas. Delegates said that unless

Kuwait backed down, on which there was still no word, one question was whether a form of words would be found to enable it to sign such an agreement.

A Gulf delegate later said Kuwait would sign with reservations on the clause in the complex OPEC accord assigning pro rata quota increases, and would not feel bound by it.

New York July futures for US benchmark West Texas Intermediate crude oil were down on the day around 60 cents to \$19.85 a barrel after news of the OPEC package.

Sheikh Ali was quoted today as saying Kuwait was adamant that its output quota be raised to 1.35 million barrels a day "to meet its external and domestic obligations."

Interviewed by a Kuwaiti daily at the meeting of the ministerial council of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Vienna, Sheikh Ali said OPEC will maintain a reference price of \$18 a barrel.

"Kuwait will not drop its demand that its output quota be slightly increased to 1.35 million barrels a day," said Sheikh Ali. "I would also like to say that this quota will increase with the passage of time."

Kuwait supported the proposals for the increase, said Sheikh Ali, citing international estimates that place demand for

Kuwait's current quota is 1.037 million barrels per day.

"Our domestic and external commitments, including feeding our refineries, make it imperative for us to exceed our OPEC-decreed quota. We do not like to sign an agreement and fail to honour it," he said.

"Our share of OPEC's total production in accordance with various criteria ranges between nine and 13 per cent. But at this current meeting we did not ask for such a ratio but asked for a meagre increment," he added.

Kuwait's three domestic refineries plus one it owns in Holland and one in Denmark need about 800,000 barrels a day in total to function at full capacity.

Asked about the course of the OPEC session the Kuwaiti minister said two proposals existed at the Vienna meeting with regard to the production ceiling—one calling for a higher production ceiling as a means of blocking excess output by member states, and the other wanted "an artificial ceiling lower than the demand for OPEC oil."

Kuwait supported the proposals for the increase, said Sheikh Ali, citing international estimates that place demand for

OPEC oil this year at over 21 million barrels a day.

Arguing against a low ceiling, Sheikh Ali said: "Such a ceiling will inevitably motivate member states to violate their quotas to meet the demand for oil... OPEC's problems will build up like a snowball."

On pricing, Sheikh Ali said that the OPEC members were in agreement to retain the \$18 per barrel as reference price for the remainder of the year.

The Saudi Arabian council of ministers, meeting under the chairmanship of Crown Prince Abdullah has expressed the hope that a spirit of co-operation will mark OPEC's current conference in Vienna and that the outcome will be positive.

The cabinet was hopeful that the meeting would reach decisions which would help preserve the balance between demand and supply.

According to a spokesman, the council of ministers warned that any imbalance in the oil market would damage the interests of both producing and consuming nations. It was concluded that OPEC's experience would enable it to avoid any pitfalls and help it bring the mid-year meeting to a successful end.

On the US Gulf coast spot market, where crude is bought and sold for cash, WTI dropped five cents a barrel to \$20.35.

On the European spot market, the price of UAE Dubai light—the key OPEC crude from the Middle East—also was off five cents to \$15.85 a barrel.

Britain's widely traded North Sea Brent crude fell two cents to \$18.48 a barrel.

On London's International Petroleum Exchange, Brent futures contracts gained one cent to end the day at \$18.04 a barrel.

Gold climbs

Dollar ends lower

LONDON, June 7. (Reuters): The dollar eased in Europe today as a trend towards lower interest rates in the United States drew the market's attention away from the crisis in China, dealers said.

"Things could change if the situation in China gets worse again, but for the moment people are waiting and thinking about other things," said one currency trader in Frankfurt. "People are watching interest rates rather than China."

In London a trader with a US bank said: "The upward pressure on the dollar because of the China troubles has lessened with everyone now tending to focus on its smaller interest rate advantage after the Fed easing."

Business was slack, especially in London where many dealers took time off to watch the prestigious Epsom Derby horse race.

Oil prices dropped after news that OPEC ministers meeting in Vienna had reached agreement on oil output for the rest of 1989.

West Texas Intermediate, the benchmark US crude, swiftly lost 60 cents to stand under \$20 a barrel.

Europe's main stock markets were generally firmer, with Frankfurt hitting its highest since the October 1987 global crash of share values.

And gold climbed more than \$10 an ounce as investors worried by the events in China sought refuge in bullion.

Andrew Smith of London broker UBS Phillips and Drew said the first reaction to the Chinese crisis was a flight to the dollar, but then as the turmoil deepened attention switched to gold, the more traditional "safe haven" in

times of uncertainty.

Gold bullion closed in London at \$375.25 an ounce against Tuesday's finish of \$365.

Dealers said the turmoil in China was underpinning the dollar but that an easing in the Federal funds rate, the interest rate at which commercial banks lend overnight to each other, was detracting from the currency investment attraction.

The Fed funds rate, which is heavily influenced by the central bank, the Federal Reserve, is the key indicator of US interest rate patterns.

The dollar ended in London at 1.9640 West German marks and 142.55 Japanese yen against Tuesday's closing 1.9780 and 143.20.

In stock markets, Frankfurt ended 1.3 per cent higher.

Dealers said the rise was helped by easier interest rates, signs the West German economy, Europe's largest, was growing strongly, and a steady flow of good corporate results.

"We can't think of anything now that could stop this rally," one dealer said. "Everything is perfect."

In UK shares were mostly firmer this afternoon helped by early gains on Wall Street, but investor interest was mainly confined to special situation stocks and business remained very thin, dealers said.

By 1441 GMT the FTSE 100 was 9.6 firmer at 2117.0, just a point off the day's high with turnover at 365.2 million shares.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson will be speaking in the debate and is expected to reiterate the government's commitment to fighting inflation.

Call for Arab common market

Move to tackle cash crisis

AMMAN, June 7. (Reuters): The council of Arab Economic Unity, so short of money that it cannot pay its staff, has set up a special committee to tackle the cash crisis.

At the start of a meeting in Amman today, delegates also warmly welcomed the return of Egypt after a 10-year suspension for making peace with Israel.

The special committee is likely to recommend sharp cuts in the 1990 budget and in staff which now number 62, a delegate told Reuters.

The 13-member council, set up in 1964 to increase Arab economic cooperation, is owed nearly \$4 billion by member states.

Hassan Gharyeb, an aide to the secretary general, said six countries had repaid a total of \$1.5 million covering arrears for 1985 and 1988. He said other amounts were on the way.

"We hope our critical situation will improve and we will be able to pay our staff, who have not received their monthly wages since January this year," said Gharyeb.

The council's 1989 budget is around \$1.25 million.

Gharyeb said Kuwait, which finances nearly a third of the budget, had paid nothing for the past three years and owed around \$1 million. He said the United Arab Emirates owed half a million dollars.

Various speakers at the meeting stressed the need to fully implement a resolution passed at the first meeting in 1964, calling for an Arab common market. They said this was especially relevant in light of the plan for European economic unity by 1992.

APICORP may finance TPRC

Oil deal

THE board of directors of Arab Petroleum Investments Corporation (APICORP) held its 2nd meeting for 1989 on Sunday, at the corporation's head office in Al Khobar, Saudi Arabia. The meeting was chaired by Jamal Hassan Jawa, the representative of Saudi Arabia. The meeting was also attended by the representatives of the governments of Libya, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Syria, Algeria, Iraq, Qatar, Kuwait and Egypt.

The executive board is likely to finance the purchase of Arab crude oil worth \$200 million by the Turkish Petroleum Refinery Company. In the sphere of loans and project finance, the board took note of the contract signed by The Arab Company for Detergent Chemicals (ARADET) in Iraq with a European company for the construction of the Sodium Tripolyphosphate Plant (STPP), with an annual output of 50 thousand tons.

The plant to be built in Al Qaim in Iraq will be supplied with phosphoric acid from the fertilizers compound in the area.

APICORP as one of the leading shareholders in (ARADET) has played the major role in arranging the financing of the project, by co-ordinating between different Arab and European banks and institutions as well as Export Credit Agencies to put the agreements in their final form.

These loans are composed of: DM 53 million buyers credit, US\$35 million commercial loan. In addition, APICORP offered a direct commercial loan for the sum of DM 18 million. Loan agreements were signed on 7 April 1989.

APICORP is an affiliate of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC).

Two-way trade totals \$2.85b

Bank of China faces massive withdrawals

SINGAPORE, June 7. (Reuters): Hundreds of Singaporeans queued for more than a km (mile) outside the Bank of China to withdraw their savings today because of concern over events in China.

The bank, which remained open till 10 pm (0200 GMT) on Tuesday to clear the rush of some 3,000 depositors, paid out more than 27 million dollars (\$13.5 million), deputy general manager Min You-Chi said.

"This is a fraction of our total deposits. The bank will try to accommodate all who wanted to withdraw their money," he said.

Some among the mainly elderly ethnic Chinese Singaporeans who queued up today said they would transfer their money to a non-Chinese bank.

Many customers, accompanied by their relatives, brought packed lunches, anticipating a long wait.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

International Bond Highlights

FRANKFURT: Deutsche Bank Finance BV, Netherlands, a unit of Deutsche Bank AG, is issuing a one billion mark Eurobond with a seven pct coupon priced at 101 five years, the bank said as sole manager.

Paris: French tire producer manufacture Francaise des Pneumatiques Michelin "Micropal" is issuing a one billion French franc 10-year Eurobond carrying a coupon of 9-1/8 pct and priced at 101-1/2, lead manager Credit Lyonnais said.

London: The World Bank is issuing a 300 mn dlrs Eurobond due June 29, 2004 paying nine pct and priced at 102-1/8 pct, lead manager Deutsche Bank Capital Markets said.

London: The European Investment Bank is issuing a further 100 mn stg tranche of an existing bulldog bond paying 9-1/2 pct and due December 9, 2009, lead manager Barclays de Zoete Wedd Ltd said.

London: TMC Plims PLC is issuing a 250 mn stg mortgage-backed floating rate note due August, 2030 initially paying 18 basis points over the three month London Interbank offered rate (Libor) and priced at par, lead manager Salomon Brothers International said.

BOMBAY

PR.	CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	96	95	92.50	MUK IRON	117	116	117.50
ACC	330	328	332	GNFC	39.25	38.75	39.50	NAT INDEX	377.95	376.76	
ALEX CHEM	--	--	--	GRASIM	117	116.50	117	NIPPON	35.50	35	35
ALM NIS	--	--	--	GSFC	148.75	146.25	151.25	NOCIL	885	870	907.50
ARI FAB	--	--	--	GUJ ALKL	67.50	66.25	68	OKRAY	22	21.50	21.25
ASHOK LEY	74	72	72	GUJ HEAVY	11	10	11	OSVAL AGRO	72	71.50	72.50
ATLAS COP	183	180	187.50	HERO HONDA	22	21.50	22.50	PETCO	21.25	20.75	21.25
AUTO CORP	41.50	41	43	HIND CIBA	955	950	945	PFIZER	69	67	69
BAL BOND	84	83	87	HIND COCOA	107.50	106.25	107.50	PONDS	185	180	182.50
BAJAJ AUTO	376.25	373	372.50	HIND LEVER	90	88.50	89	PREM AUTO	52	52.50	52
BAR RAYON	450	448.75	445	HIND MOTOR	36.75	36.50	39	RANBAXY	110	107.50	110
BK BOND	93.25	146	145	HINDALCO	285.75	280	282.50	RAY WOOL	80	79.50	80.50
BLOW PLAST	--	--	--	HOECHST	775	750	770	RECKITT	195.75	190	196.25
BOM DYE	139	138	138.50	INDROL	35	34.50	35.25	RELAXINE	122	119	123
BSS INDEX	708.19	--	--	INDROR	305	303.75	310	SHRI FIR	86	84	85
BURR WEL	200	190	195	INDROL	106	105	105	SIEMENS	72.50	71	73
CANSHARE	185	180	185	INGERSOLL	390	382.50	391.25	SKF	1300	1280	1310
CEN ENKA	2490	2480	2565	ITC	106	105	105	SIEMENS	72.50	71	73
CEN SPG	1850	1835	1860	JK SYN	77.50	76	76	SPIC	58.50	58	58
COLGATE	328.75	327.50	333	KIN ENGG	182.50	180	182.50	ST MILLS	270	265	265.25
CRONT GR	1250	1250	1275	KIR CLAPP	80	78	79	TATA CHEM	112.50	113	114
DCM	11.50	10	11	KSB PUMPS	395	387.50	395	TATA OIL	62.50	60	64
DEEP FERT	31.50	31	31	L AND T	86	85	86.50	TATA POW	322.50	320	317.5
DUNLOP	78	76	76	LIPTON	72	73	72.50	TELCO	787.50	777.50	791.2
EI HOTELS	56	54	55.50	MAC RUSSEL	107.50	100	102.50	TRAPP AGRO	--	--	--
ESCORTS	66	65.50	65.50	MAD COATS	101	100	101	TISCO	1320	1290	1342
ESKAYEF	121.25	117.50	122.50	MADHINA	95	94.50	95	VAN ORG	163	162	163.50
ESSAR SPG	22.50	22.50	22.50	MAS SHARE	18.75	18.85	18.75	VARELI	26.25	25.75	26
FOOD SPL	176.25	175	177.50	MICO	582.50	581.25	600	VOLTAS	720	720	720
FORBES	48	47	47	MILK FOOD	--	235	240	WITCO	23	23.25	22.50
GAR POLY	71	69	69.50	MODI	90	86.25	87.50	ZENITH	58	57	58
GE-SHIPPING	40	40	39.85	NRF LTD.	390	385	390	ZUARI AGRO	75	75	75

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE	STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE	MITSUB CP	1410	1420	MITSUB EL	1150	1150	MITSUB EST	2420
AEG	207.5	AJINOMOTO	2680	2690	790	795	MITSUB HVY	1160	1150	MITSUB HVY	2420
ALSTANZ VR	1812.0	AKAI ELEC	1370	1370	1370	1370	MITSUB CO	1020	1020	MITSUB CO	2410
BADENWHR	206.5	AKOI	2520	2520	2520	2520	MITSUKOSHI	2590	2590	MITSUKOSHI	2410
BASF	314.50	ASAHI GLS	916	921	916	921	MITSUMI EL	980	1000	MITSUMI EL	1270
BAUER HYP	390.0	BANK TOKYO	1640	1630	1640	1630	NICHICON	1180	1190	NICHICON	1750
BBC	389.5	BRIDGESTON	1640	1620	1640	1620	NIKON CHNT	1180	1190	NIKON CHNT	1270
BHF	448.0	CANON	1800	1830	1800	1830	NIKKO SEC	1800	1770	NIKKO SEC	1800
BMW	459.0	CASIO COMP	1410	1430	1410	1430	NIP ELEC	1840	1870	NIP ELEC	1870
BOSCH	573.5	CHUGAI PHM	1730	1730	1730	1730	NIP KOKAN	869	853	NIP KOKAN	869
COMMERZBK	240.5	CITIZEN W	1150	1140	1150	1140	NIP OIL	1490	1510	NIP OIL	1490
CONTI GUMM	288.7	DAI-ICHI KAN	3340	3320	3340	3320	NIP STEEL	880	857	NIP STEEL	880
DAIMER BEN	691.5	DAI NIP IN	902	895	902	895	NIP YUSEN	1000	1000	NIP YUSEN	1000
DEUTSCH BMW	559.0	DAI NIP PT	2360	2360	2360	2360	NIS MOTOR	1600	1610	NIS MOTOR	1600
DLW	545.0	DAI NIP SC	1150	1200	1150	1200	NOMURA SEC	3230	3230	NOMURA SEC	3230
DRESDNER-BF	3261.25	DANIEL MP TO	1070	1060	1070	1060	OBRA CO	1200	1210	OBRA CO	1200
DT BABBCC	126.50	DANIEL MP TO	1070	1060	1070	1060	OLYMPUS	1360	1370	OLYMPUS	1360
SHR INDOR	597.50	DANIEL SEC	224.50	220.50	224.50	220.50	PENTA OGI	1450	1440	PENTA OGI	1450
TELEFUNKEN	355.25	EBRA MFG	2230	2270	2230	2270	RENOVA	1070	1070	RENOVA	1070
GOLDSCHMID	404.0	ELSAI	1990	1990	1990	1990	RICOH	1250	1260	RICOH	1250
HEPNER	460.0	FUJITSU	1500	1530	1500	1530	SAKYO	2450	2420	SAKYO	2450
HOECHST AG	303.0	FUJITSU	1500	1530	1500	1530	SANYO	939	945	SANYO	939
HORECH	272.5	FUJI BANK	3450	3490	FUJI BANK	3450	SEIYU ST.	2200	2220	SEIYU ST.	2200
HORTEN	246.0	FUJI PHOTO	4040	4000	FUJI PHOTO	4040	SEKISUI PS	2000	1970	SEKISUI PS	2000
HUSSEL HLD	588.5	FUJI SAWA	1720	1720	FUJI SAWA	1720	SEKISUI PS	2000	1970	SEKISUI PS	2000
KALI SALZ	200.6	FUJITA CP	1890	1840	FUJITA CP	1890	SHARP	1390	1400	SHARP	1390
KARSTADT	542.0	HITACHI	1600	1610	HITACHI	1600	SHISEIDO	1720	1700	SHISEIDO	1720
KAUHOF	480.0	HONDA MOT	1910	1960	HONDA MOT	1910	SONY	7700	7800	SONY	7700
KLOECK H	184.5	ISETAN	2500	2500	ISETAN	2500	SUMITOMO	1290	1290</		



Barber Conable
Debt deal

Top bankers expected to face intense pressure

MADRID, June 7. (Reuter): The West's top bankers are expected to face intense pressure today to drop their resistance to a pioneering deal that would slash Mexico's huge debt burden.

The heads of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank are likely to argue forcibly at a meeting here that commercial banks must pull their weight in a new US-led strategy to ease the Third World's \$1.3-trillion debt burden.

But so far there has been scant evidence that creditor banks would be willing to narrow the wide differences that have surfaced with Mexico — the world's second largest debtor after Brazil — and cut debt by as much as Washington wants.

"There will be considerable resistance from the commercial banks, but enormous political pressure on them," Robert Stuver, chief executive of Union Bank of Switzerland, told Reuters.

The US strategy unveiled by Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady in March radically shifts the emphasis of previous debt talks, calling on banks to reduce the burden of credits in addition to the well-worn formula of providing new money.

Negotiations on Mexico's \$54-billion of medium- and long-term bank debt have turned into a test case likely to spell the success or failure of the so-called 'Brady plan.'

The US administration is pressing for an early deal to prove that the industrial world is seeking new ways to tackle the debt problem, one which is likely to figure prominently at a summit in July of leading non-communist nations in Paris.

Bankers in Madrid for an annual meeting of chief executives and monetary officials, met briefly yesterday to review their tactics but showed no sign of relaxing their most recent offer to allow a 22-per-cent reduction in Mexican debt — well below the nation's demand for a 55-per-cent cut.

"Both sides are pursuing a hard line," said one top banker who asked not to be identified.

Bankers said they expect IMF managing director Michel Camdessus and World Bank president Barber Conable to recommend a far bigger contribution from the banks in a meeting this evening, arguing they have to play a more responsible role in tackling the seven-year-old debt crisis.

Their arguments will come hard on the heels of Brady's plea to bankers here on Monday when he told them: "It is to your business judgment that I appeal in asking you to move ahead."

Today's meeting is ostensibly an information session during which the IMF and World Bank chiefs will inform bankers of the role the institutions can play in new debt reduction techniques approved by their boards over the past few days.

But Mexican debt negotiator Angel Gurria and other senior officials are in Madrid and could attend. Bankers would not be surprised if the talks turned into a negotiating session.

"Officially it is an information meeting, but it will probably go beyond that," said Stuver. "But I give it only about a 50-per-cent chance that things will move ahead."

The Brady strategy won the broad political backing of major Western industrial nations at a meeting in Berne last Friday, despite lingering doubts by Britain and West Germany that it could turn into a tax-payer bail out of the banks.

UAE minister to visit Moscow

ABU DHABI, June 7. (Reuter): United Arab Emirates Economy and Trade Minister Saif Al Jarwan will visit the Soviet Union later this year to sign a co-operation agreement, UAE officials said today.

They gave no precise date for the visit. The pact would deal with economic, trade and technical matters, they said.

Paramount launches hostile bid for Time

NEW YORK, June 7. (Reuter): Paramount Communications Inc. said today it was launching a \$10.7-billion takeover bid for Time Inc., publisher of Time magazine, threatening the planned Time-Warner Communications merger which would create the world's largest media-entertainment company.

A statement from Time said its chairman, J. Richard Munro, received a call yesterday from Martin Davis, chairman of Paramount, advising him that the publishing and communications conglomerate was launching a hostile offer for Time's shares.

Time's statement said Davis had previously given Munro explicit assurances he would not make a hostile bid for the

company, which publishes sports illustrated, People magazine, Fortune magazine and runs the home box office cable television channel.

It said Davis' proposal would be reviewed by Time's board as required by law.

Paramount, formerly Gulf and Western Inc., said it had commenced a \$175 per share cash tender offer, which it valued at \$10.7 billion, for all of the outstanding shares of Time.

Paramount is a major Hollywood studio with box office hits this year as "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade," starring Harrison Ford and Sean Connery.

Other recent hits include "Coming to America," with Eddie Murphy, and

Crocodile Dundee II," starring Australian Paul Hogan. Paramount has made "Star Trek" as a television series and as a string of hit films.

Late last month, Time and Warner had swept away what was thought to be one of the last big legal obstacles to their proposed \$18-billion merger.

The two companies announced they had settled a dispute with Chris Craft Industries over the interpretation of a five-year-old off agreement between Warner and Chris Craft Industries.

And last week the two companies received approval from the Federal Communications Commission, the last remaining regulatory hurdle to the merger scheduled for approval by Stockholders

on June 23.

Time and Warner announced on March 4 they planned to join to create the world's largest communications company in a move widely seen as an attempt to ward off takeovers against either company, while preserving the independence of the giant publisher, a US institution since the 1920s.

The merger would put under one roof virtually every type of entertainment and media business with the exception of newspapers and a broadcast network.

But despite the planned merger, speculation continued that a hostile bidder would come after Time. In addition to Paramount, Capital Cities/ABC and Bass interests were mentioned. But Paramount was regarded by many analysts as the most likely bidder.

More reserves needed

Third World falling behind on \$70b owned US banks: study

WASHINGTON, June 7. (AP): Third World countries are falling behind on \$70.67 billion worth of debt to US banks, according to the General Accounting Office.

The GAO, the investigating arm of Congress, did not name the countries.

Argentina, the number three debtor after Brazil and Mexico, has paid no interest on its foreign debt for over a year.

The GAO said US bank regulators should make banks put up more reserves to protect their depositors against losses on those loans.

It calculated that the regulators now demand reserves of only 5.1 per cent, nearly \$3.6 billion. It suggested that they should be insisting on 62.2 per cent, nearly \$44 billion.

"Because banks generally respond to reserve requirements by writing down assets by the required amounts, a decline in their book value of their assets results," the office said in a recent note on figures to Rep. John Lafalce, a member of the banking committee.

Though the GAO did not say so, writing down a bank's assets reduces the amount of business it can do and makes the management look bad to depositors and stockholders.

In a letter yesterday to Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan, Lafalce said the banks should put up more reserves. "US banks maintain lower reserve levels than almost all other industrialized countries," Lafalce wrote.

A bank is now only required to put up reserves when the regulators declare foreign loans it has made to be either a total loss or "value-impaired." That means the debtors have not paid interest for six months or otherwise shown that they are in deep trouble.

US bank regulators next week are expected to discuss behind closed doors whether to classify loans to Argentina as "value-impaired."

The category already contains Poland, Bolivia, Peru, Zaire, Sudan, Nicaragua and Liberia. But their total debt is small compared with the major debtors Brazil, Mexico and Argentina.

US authorities calculate that Argentina owes US banks more than \$8.5 billion. Argentina has not paid interest for more than a year on its foreign debt, now estimated at over \$60 billion.

The GAO thinks that the bank regulators should insist that the creditor banks put aside reserves proportional to the price that a country's debt will fetch on the open market.



A trader on the floor of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange dons a black armband with his identification number instead of the usual vest in sympathy for the protesters killed in Tiananmen Square by Chinese troops. (Reuter wirephoto)

China's prospects still unclear

Bloodbath hits projects

HONG KONG, June 7. (Reuter): Bloodshed and political turmoil in China have forced multinational investors to postpone or review at least six major projects in Hong Kong and China, banking and other sources said.

A third Hopewell project affected by the political turmoil signals not only a big change in China but also threatens Hong Kong's stability and prosperity, a China department head of a US bank said.

"Even though some investors, would like to keep on with their investment plans, banks are hesitating to lend them money until we can quantify the risk," he added.

Hopewell Holdings, a locally-listed property company, has stopped work on two coal-fired power station projects in China.

A senior official of Hopewell, who asked not to be identified, said work on plans for a previously unpublicised power station at Ling Ding Island, between Hong Kong and Macau, had stopped.

The project also includes a cargo terminal and a highway linking the three places. It will cost \$3.5 billion and six billion China yuan (equivalent to \$1.6 billion).

"I don't know how long it will be postponed. But nobody would invest when China's prospects are still unclear," the official said.

Hopewell's other power sta-

tion investment in China, at Shajiao, is also on hold, he added.

Both power stations depend on Japanese equipment. "The Japanese are now hesitating," the official said.

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Hopewell's other power sta-

Fed sees stronger dollar as a useful weapon to curtail price rises

THE dollar made substantive gains over the month, spurred by strong institutional and corporate purchases. Despite weighty central bank intervention, dollar sentiment was enhanced by a better than anticipated trade figure for March and a refusal to date by the Europeans and Japan to raise interest rates in defence of their currencies, according to NBK's Currency Monitor.

Investor preference for dollar assets is represented by several factors at present. Namely an interest rate premium that remains very much in the US favour.

As long as the dollar is perceived to be supported, demand

for high yielding assets will continue.

Perceived investment opportunities elsewhere are currently diminished by the political crisis in Japan and the dispute in West Germany.

Economic trends in the US are also being reassessed.

Earlier concerns that the economy could be heading for a hard landing of much lower growth without a simultaneous reduction to inflation have been replaced by a more optimistic view of moderately lower activity with inflation under control.

With substantive flows from capital rich Europe and the Far East to the US continuing, "we expect asset preference criteria to

remain behind the dollar for the time being.

Consequently investor appraisal of the dollar's fortunes will undermine confidence and a necessary downward correction of the US unit is ultimately forecast.

Despite indications of slowdown in activity and the dollar's rise, the Federal Reserve is unlikely for the immediate term to alter policy.

However longer-term, sterling continues to remain vulnerable to an expanded current account deficit and above OECD average inflation. The Bundesbank and the Central Bank of Japan have little alternative than to keep policy reasonably restrictive. Higher interest rates whilst not inevitable appear very likely.

Strength. Sterling has benefitted, supported on the crosses at DM1.18 and Y2.25.

The UK authorities commitment to reducing inflation suggests that interest rates will remain as high as they are if not higher for sometime to come. This should continue to lend support to the currency.

Elsewhere markets have very much been driven by the dollar's

Experts express guarded optimism on EEC unified market

MADRID, Spain, June 7. (UPI):

European financial leaders yesterday expressed guarded optimism on the 12-nation European Economic Community's unified market starting in 1992, and two captains of industry predicted many European firms will suffer.

Only one-third of the EEC firms will emerge as winners in the fray, and mid-sized firms will be hardest hit, according to the most dire predictions made at the annual international monetary conference meeting in Madrid.

"Europe as a whole will be a winner" but there will be hard adjustments as cost-conscious companies trim factories and jobs to meet the stiffer 1992 competition, said Percy Barnevik, president of the Zurich-based Swiss Industrial Machinery firm ABB.

Barnevik, speaking to 200 top bankers and financial leaders from 22 nations attending the IMC session, estimated that two-thirds of EEC firms will be losers as the post-industrial pattern of streamlining continues.

"The companies most likely to immediately reap benefits from the single market will not be based inside the EEC," and most middle-sized firms probably will close, said Helmut Sihler of the Dusseldorf, West Germany-based consumer products giant Henkel.

In addition, the presidents of some of Europe's largest banks said their optimism of 18 months ago regarding mergers in the financial sector leading up to 1992 have given way to a look at the hard realities and costs of institutions trying to enter "global banking."

"Today the competition is tougher and tougher and the prices on (banking) networks that could be acquired are very high," said Marc Vienot, chairman of Societe Generale in Paris.

The tone of the three-day conference that ends later today was

generally upbeat about the unified EEC market of some 320 million consumers, but with comments that the expected economic benefits to Europeans may be slightly longer in coming.

"I don't agree that 1992 will benefit most the outside (non-EEC) countries," said Jean-Louis Befia, chairman of France's state-run glass manufacturer Saint-Gobain.

Befia said European companies will be better suited to adapt to the regional or community-wide consumer preferences in the unified market, and he blasted the "cutthroat competition" particularly in the United States and Japan, that confronts the EEC-based companies.

EVENTS

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Saturday to Wednesday, 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs.: 9 am to 12 noon and 7.00 to 10.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts; ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs.: 9 am to 12 noon, 7 to 10 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts - rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

MUSIC

Musical evening
JUNE 9: Octave presents a grand musical evening comprising hit songs from Hindi, Malayalam and Tamil films, at the Indian Arts Circle auditorium. Funsites at 6.30 pm.

THEATRE

Konkani Drama
JUNE 15/16 (4.00 pm): Nashibachao Divo Paloulo, the MAR production's Konkani drama, directed by Prem Kumar, to be staged at the Indian Arts Circle. For entry passes contact Raja Stores, tele: 2412970.

FILMS

British Council
JUNE 11/12: Toosie's this month's feature film at the British Council.

A moment on the Orient Express
ORIENT EXPRESS — the world's most romantic adventure was the theme of the recent Chaine des Rotisseurs dinner hosted by the Kuwait International Hotel. The Orient Express — the name is resonant with all the glamour and opulence of a privileged past. A past that might have disappeared forever when the last Orient Express made its last journey in 1977.

The Paris-Venice sector of this service became famous as the most luxurious train trip in Europe. Royalty and heads of state, business leaders, great musicians and performers, authors, spies, politicians and aristocrats were to be seen regularly on board.

The Faisla Restaurant on the 19th floor was chosen as the ideal place and decorated entirely on the theme of the Orient Express, where a smartly attired attendant assisted the hotel's royalty to 'board' the train. Upon disembarking they stepped into one of the luxurious dining rooms of the Orient Express.

The journey of the evening took them through eight countries commencing in London with a classic dish from the

ish Council, Mansouriya. Dustin Hoffman plays Tootsie. Desperate, he took a female role and became a star. Comedy at its best.

Also stars Sydney Pollack, who also directs, and Jessica Lange. It will be shown at 6.30 pm on both nights. Duration 112 minutes. Admission free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 251-5512; 253-3204.

SOCIAL

Milad mahfil

JUNE 9: Bangladesh Association will organise a Milad mahfil at 5 pm on Friday at the new Bangladesh embassy premises in Khalidiya. All Bangladeshis are cordially invited.

The new address of the embassy: Plot 83, Block 1, Road 14, Building 3 (just opposite to the bus stop near the KTC garage Shuwaikh).

Hash House Harriers

JUNE 10 (Wednesday): Kuwait Hash House Harriers will hold their 250th run and celebration dinner on Wednesday. Current and past members welcome. Tel: 5711209 after 2 pm for details.

Hash House Harriers

JUNE 10 (Saturday): Kuwait Hash House Harriers will hold their 250th run and celebration dinner. Current and past members welcome. Tel: 5711209 after 2 pm for details.

Kuwait Players

JUNE 12 (Monday): All members of Kuwait Players are reminded that the AGM will take place at the Massiah

Beach Hotel, Al Foz room at 7.30 pm. The group needs new members for next season so if you wish to help please come along. Renewal of membership will take place after the meeting.

Narthana

JUNE 15, (Thursday): Narthana celebrates Nehru Centenary year at Sharq Cooperative Society hall at 6.30 pm. A variety of Indian classics, folk dances and Nrihasilas would highlight the event. To obtain your free entry passes, please contact 4337608.

Get-together

JUNE 16: The Go-Go Club will be having a get-together at the Ramada Al Salem Hotel from 11 am onwards with Stepping Stones and Symphony in attendance. For details contact Raju 2412970 and Tony 2631826 after 3.30 pm.

HOTELS

At the Meridien

HOTEL Meridien Kuwait features special weekly promotion at La Brasserie restaurant: Asian Corner every Saturday, Monday and Wednesday. A wide variety of Asian dishes, in addition to the regular buffet, will be featured. Tempura, fried noodles, etc., are prepared in front of the guests and served on the spot.

Mexican Night every Sunday: Discover the delight of Mexican cuisine awaiting you in our 'Little Mexico.'

Greek Tavern every Tuesday: Experience authentic Greek ambience and food with live Bouzouki music and wide variety of mezzah.

Enjoy an evening of foot tapping fun every Thursday, Remy and Tony's jam session in La Brasserie.

Family day every Friday: Enjoy a day with your family. La Brasserie offers a wide array

of Oriental favourites along with live music, entertainment, and a magician to thrill the little ones and many other games for the children.

At the SAS Hotel

AT the Bistretto: SAS Hotel's Italian restaurant, designed to create a cool atmosphere, is a perfect setting for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The buffet features grilled specialities. The Friday lunch features Indian, Arabic and continental cuisine. The Darbar offers an Indian buffet lunch daily except Fridays and a la carte for dinner.

Peacock Room: Experience the feel of the Orient. Come for lunch and dinner with us; Chinese cuisine prepared by our Chinese chef Von Kwee Kiong.

Al Boom: Dine in a perfect Kuwaiti thow; fine selection of charcoal grills; extensive mezze buffet and Al Boom daily specials; also open for lunch on Thursdays and Fridays.

Clock: The only drive-in restaurant in town. Serves varied fast food items plus specialities.

Edam: Come and try our daily specials. We also have a diet corner for weight watchers.

At the Plaza

WEEKEND package deal at the Kuwait Plaza. A special deal for those who are looking for fun, entertainment, relaxation and enjoyment. Pay only KD7 and spend two days at Plaza. Single room KD10. Don't miss this opportunity, spend your summer vacation at Kuwait Plaza the most inexpensive vacation you ever dreamed of.

Traditional Arabic music by Fawzi Jamal will entertain you at the Noura Terrace. The only open air terrace in the middle of Kuwait city where you enjoy green scenery, delicious food, backgammon and bubble-bubble.

International music, Marco Polo the Italian restaurant in Kuwait features music with a difference. All kinds of light jazz, pop and Western music by

the most celebrated duo in town — Stan and Alice. For reservation contact 2438800.

At the Continental

THE Gardenia, at the Kuwait Continental hotel open from 7 am to midnight, offers dinner buffet on Thursdays. The buffet features grilled specialities. The Friday lunch features Indian, Arabic and continental cuisine. The Darbar offers an Indian buffet lunch daily except Fridays and a la carte for dinner.

Kuwait International

GARDEN POOL: Kubli Khan Mongolian barbecue every Friday afternoon. Mix and match your lunch while it is prepared according to your palate. Ext. 8006.

La Patisserie: Serves Continental breakfast and afternoon tea. Kiwi cake is the cake of the week. Pianist in the evenings. Ext. 8014.

SPORTS

Recreation Centre

SWIMMING lessons available at the Holiday Inn Health Club and recreation centre. Separate ladies and mens fit classes with Steve and Chris Hill on Mondays at 6 to 7 pm. Also ladies aerobics and mixed aerobics with Toufi Pakasalo. Yoga and bowing alley available for company tournaments. Squash handicap tournament for all standards and squash coaching available from our squash instructors. Also tennis coaching, martial arts starting on Sunday, June 4 and on following Sundays (6.30 to 7.30 pm) mixed classes. Additional facilities available under the supervision of selected professionals. For details contact the recreation department, tel. No. 4742000 ext. 6788 or 6700.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Baghdad Pharmacy
Abdullah Al Salem St
Al Amin Pharmacy
Bebbehani Bldg.
Jaber Al Mubarak st.
Hawalli and Negra
Al Najat Pharmacy
opp. Doctor's Complex,
Hawalli
Sakanya and Ramaithiya
Al Razan Pharmacy
Razi St
Fahsheel and Almasi
Al Khaleej Pharmacy
Mujannah St, Abdulla Al
Rabieh Bldg.
Jleeb Al Shiyookh
Al Razi Pharmacy
Area 17, Qasimah 14
Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
New Commercial Market

FRIDAY

Kuwait
Al Shaab Pharmacy
Fahad Al Salem St
Al Muntasir Pharmacy,
Ahmad Al Jaber St
Hawalli and Negra
Al Noora Pharmacy, Othman
St, Nugra
Salimya and Rumsithiya
Al Dena Pharmacy, Shua Al
Sabah Bldg, Amman St.
Fahsheel and Almasi
Al Badiya Pharmacy
Dabbous St
Jleeb Al Shiyookh
Al Wahab Pharmacy
Block 14, Souk St
Jahra
Al Abrax Pharmacy
Do'able Al Khizaj St
Riase
Al Riqqa Pharmacy
Bldg No 12, Riqqa

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran

8.30 Ma'a Al Islam: Religious Programme prepared and presented by Dr Khaled Al Mathkoor

9.15 Sabah Al Khair News

9.00 News in Arabic

9.20 Sabah Al Khair Variety

10.00 Elli Ma's Qersh: Daily Arabic Serial (part 1), starring Ahmad Bodair, Mahmood Al Jondi, Sahar Rami, Mamdooh Wafi and Sabri Abdul Minam.

9.30 Cartoons

11.00 Tarweed Al Rajol: Arabic Feature Film, starring Karam Mutaa, Ragha, Mohammed Ridha and Raja Al Jadawi

10.00 Magazine D'Actualite

12.30 Al Hikayat: Sakhina: Arabic serial (part 6)

10.15 Hikayat Sakhina:

11.00 News Summary & Varieties

11.15 Al Theeb Wa Oyoon

12.00 Local news and varieties

12.00 News Summary

12.30 The World News via Satellite

12.35 The World News via Satellite

1.05 Istirahat Al Joma: variety programme, prepared and presented by Variety Division

1.30 Istirahat Al Joma:

1.30 Ighnam Zamani: local play, starring Abdul Husain Abdul Ridha, Suad Abdulla, Ayesha Ibrahim, Husain Al Saleh, Saleh Hamad, Mohammed Jaber and Kathem Al Qalaf

4.00 Ighnam Zamani:

4.00 Al Kuwait Fi Osbo: documentary programme

4.30 Al Kuwait Fi Osbo:

4.30 Summary of television programmes

5.00 Al Osra: local programme, presented by Fatma Rashed and Fatooh Al Dalal

5.45 Hadeeth Al Osbo: Sheikh Ali Jassar

5.45 Al Ahadeeth Al Mawdooa:

5.45 Al Ahadeeth Al Mawdooa: religious programme, presented by Sheikh Salah Abu Ismael

6.00 Cartoons

6.00 Friday prayers: live from the Grand Mosque

7.00 Varieties

7.00 News Summary

7.30 Looking for Adventure

7.30 The World News via Satellite

7.30 Cultural Programme

7.30 Alwani: variety programme, prepared by

12.30 Alwani: variety programme, prepared by

12.30 Alwani: variety programme, prepared by

12.30 Holy Quran and closedown

12.30 Holy Quran and closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran

7.30 T.N.T.: "Killing Time" Turner and Amy are on the alert after a killer returns to town. Starring: Mr T. Action.

6.10 Denver: cartoon serial

8.00 News in English

6.30 The New Mickey Mouse Club: tonight, a fairy tale about the magic bean plant and the imprisoned prince is retold for the MM Club viewers.

8.40 Beauty and the Beast: Catherine has to find a way to save a woman, who was involved in an accident and is wanted by the law.

7.00 Munsters Today:

9.30 Paul Daniel's Magic Show

7.00 Thursday's feature:

10.30 "Hermann: the Astronaut". Hermann, a gravedigger, decides he wants to be an astronaut.

7.00 Once a Hero: "Things Get Ugly." Brad plans to fight against Mr Justice, who has regained power.

8.00 News in English

8.30 Breaking Away: a look at entertainment at the sea club in Kuwait.

8.50 Sable: "Evangelist." A woman dies in an orphanage; everyone suspects suicide but Sable suspects foul play and investigates.

9.30 The Charmings: "The Birth of a Salesman". Eric joins a firm as a carpet salesman and is unable to stick to the rules of salesmanship.

10.00 Tales from the Other Side: "The Odds". Who is the dead and the living of the two friends, opposing each other, in a game of death?

10.30 Blue Blood: "Deja Vu". Private Eye Henry takes a holiday in Italy, and gets involved in helping a girl in trouble... Starring: Lauren Hutton, Albert Fortell, Marisa Berenson.

11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

PRAYERS

Fajr

3.13 am

Zahr

11.47

Asr

3.21 pm

Maghreb

6.46

Isha

8.17

FRIDAY

Fajr

3.13 am

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After two flops, director Dutta banks on 'Batwara'

Big hopes for new extravaganza

By Firoze Rangoonwalla

J.P. Dutta is in the midst of a peculiar dilemma. He was the director of the year's two biggest flops, *Hathayar* and *Yateem*. And he has on hand a big-budget multi-star spectacular called *Batwara*, which trade people are afraid to touch, and cinegoers are doubtful about.

In a way it speaks badly of a system where a moderately successful director gets loaded at once with three to four films. He cannot give enough attention to them. His head gets swollen up with visions of absolute success. He begins to treat his unit, even stars, in a rough way. And when two films flop, the fate of the third shakes up the whole industry.

Dutta had made *Ghulami* on a vast canvas, with big stars. That proved a fair success and distributors made money as it was sold at a lesser price. The director's efforts in it were visibly strong and so he was at once proclaimed a Midas. That led to producers rushing with offers, including Dharmendra who wanted a hit for his *Sunny*. But *Yateem* let him down as much as *Hathayar* gave a set-back to *Sunjay Dutt*. And now *Batwara* has Dharmendra, Vinod Khanna, Amrita, Dimple, Shammi Kapoor, Poonam, Mohsin, Amrish Puri, Asha Parekh etc.

What went wrong with Dutta's two flops? Insiders say that he had no heart in them. He never concentrated on the script and kept shooting off-the-cuff. The films when released, were found soulless, despite all the glamour, grandeur and violence. Dutta had also grown too big for his boots. He asked for costly and nearly impossible background material, but rarely used it in a way that could be seen on screen. He also became rude and abusive, beating up an assistant and behaving coarsely with Dimple.

The heroine's sister Simple was so angry that she wished *Batwara* would also flop and finish his career. Busy Dimple was made to waste several days on location and given bad costumes to wear. Dharma and Vinod also had a fight about their clashing dates. Dutta's wife, former actress Bindya, had to give press interviews to paint a good image of the director. But trade people are keeping away from *Batwara* and some of those who bought it initially have left it. Producer Salim had to put big ads saying: "Don't believe what the trade says. The film is ready to hit the big screen".



Vinod Khanna and Amrita Singh in 'Batwara'

What is the film all about? It is the same village tale, with characters in different rich Rajput families. Shammi Kapoor has three sons. Vinod prefers to live with an ex-soldier Dharmendra. Vyayendra believes in class and caste, rather villainously and so he is close to Amrish Puri. Third son Mohsin Khan is a cop. All have their girls. The drama mounts up when Vyayendra gets killed, Vinod and Dharma turn enemies and the villains manipulate a lot of violence. The film aims at a climax like *Sholay* and other spectacles.

Results of *Batwara* are being closely watched, for on that also depends the fate of Dutta's *Bandhav* with big boy, Bachchan, which has only one reel completed, and that also has yet to be said.

Star interview

Chunky: I will continue my flirtations



Chunky Pandey: still confident after a couple of flops.

Star quotes



GOVINDA: Chunky is talented but is junior to me. I am not at all worried about him.

He has come up only in action or violence oriented films. I also have an edge in romance, dance, melodrama. I am more versatile. And I have double the number of films he has.

REKHA: Why is Amitabh signing films with any and every heroine? What is he trying to prove? Why should he forget his position? Now, he may even sign films with Baby Guddu or Pinkie. He should select his actresses properly.

DIMPLE: I want to charter a plane, put all the film journal-

ists and gossip scribes in it and then get them stranded on an island (without me of course). That way, we film people will be left in peace.

JACKIE: I am not reserved like Anil Kapoor. I mix freely with actresses. But I am also faithful to my wife. Call it flirting or whatever.

RISHI KAPOOR: Putting a ceiling on stars is wrong. There must be a ceiling on producers.

SRI DEVI: My father is my best critic. I respect his opinion. He is very sharp in pointing out flaws in my acting. I try to improve on that.

Behind the screen

Youngster Ektaa is getting chummy with Shekhar Kapoor in the hope of bagging more roles... In that case, what will happen to Farha's sister *Tabboo*? In any case, Shekhar takes ages to start any film, whether it is *Prem* or anything else.

Govinda is becoming more popular than Mithun on stage shows. Recently at a charity show and variety programme, people wanted only Govinda and clapped lustily at his items. But Mithun got a cold response for his antics. When this happened on his home ground Calcutta, he was even more heart-broken. Anyway, he was so "high", that he could barely stand properly on the stage.

Sunny and Dimple are now ready to face the world with their relationship. No fears or tremors. Both appeared boldly in some recent *Mishras*. And they also acted in romantic scenes, allowing the press photographers to click madly. Papa Dharam and Kaka Rajesh may not like it. But the two are out to prove a point, despite being married and with children.

Shabana Azmi after her poor international debut was offered only two TV films in London recently. She chickened out of them with the excuse that it would require her to stay three months in U.K. And that would upset all her films in India. Which films is she talking about?

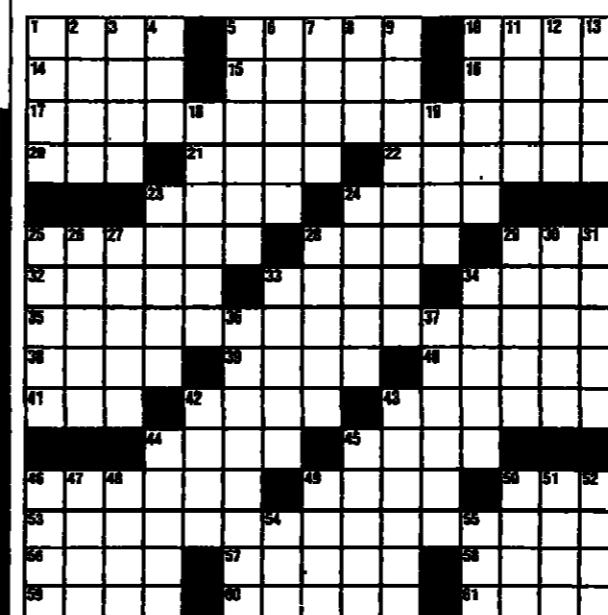
Mimics are becoming directors in disguise these days. When Anil Kapoor recently did a mimicry of Dilip, Dev and Raj, for Rakesh Roshan's *Kishen Kanhaiya*, it was mimic Johnny Whisky who called the shots and okayed Anil's work. So Johnny Lever, there is also hope for you, still.



Sunny and Dimple: Ready to face the world together

Mithun ditched producer Ramesh Lakhani on the film *Humlog* which started ages ago, when he was not a big star. He recently promised 10 days after 6 years, and of that too, he reported for only one day. Soon after that, the poor producer died of a heart attack.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 The Pequod's skipper
- 5 Subtraction word
- 10 French cleric
- 14 Lasso
- 15 Concerning
- 16 Labor-saving device
- 17 From noon to noon
- 20 Gender
- 21 Paradise
- 22 Name of the stage
- 23 Approach
- 24 — fixe
- 25 Marquise's relative
- 28 Whirlpool
- 29 Posed
- 32 Gladden
- 33 Polar: Var.
- 34 Part of TLC
- 35 Ponchelli's musical time step
- 38 Foot part
- 39 Tanoan Indian
- 40 Disney Center
- 41 "The Catcher in the —"
- 42 Evening, in Roma
- 43 Tool chest items
- 44 Corn bread
- 45 Flightless bird
- 46 Pass it on, as gossip
- 49 Word with boy or hop
- 50 — de Cologne
- 53 Byron work of 1807
- 56 In addition
- 57 Storm, in Paris
- 58 War god
- 59 Singer
- 60 Staircase part
- 61 Wild pig
- 62 Easy access policy
- 63 Badger
- 64 Eva
- 65 V-shaped piece
- 66 Rug of a sort
- 67 Take a vote
- 68 Trick
- 69 Prejudice
- 70 Saarinen, the architect
- 71 Salazar
- 72 University
- 73 Part of Gothic
- 74 Collage
- 75 "Sawtooth Range state tree
- 76 "Mothproof" tree
- 77 Winglike
- 78 John — Garner
- 79 Hollywood spear-carrier
- 80 Impudence
- 81 Directional mark
- 82 Tries out
- 83 Burning
- 84 Dried coconut meat
- 85 Easy access policy
- 86 Retailer
- 87 Evita
- 88 Trick
- 89 Saarinen, the architect
- 90 Sonam, Soni, Ektaa
- 91 Madhuri
- 92 Tadap Ho To Aisi
- 93 "The Catcher in the —"
- 94 Evening, in Roma
- 95 "Brave's" abode
- 96 Louisiana's Long
- 97 Nick

DOWN

- 1 Crafts companion
- 2 Sewing machine man
- 3 Summit
- 4 Actor Gazzara
- 5 SOSI
- 6 Sunrise
- 7 Main Street brightener
- 8 Former Burmese premier
- 9 Sit on the fence
- 10 Make amends
- 11 Ring event
- 12 Famed soprano
- 13 Otherwise
- 14 Brave's abode
- 15 Corn bread
- 16 Flightless bird
- 17 Crafts companion
- 18 Machine man
- 19 Summits
- 20 Actor Gazzara
- 21 SOSI
- 22 Sunrise
- 23 Main Street brightener
- 24 Former Burmese premier
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North America

THE North American continent is dominated by the United States and Canada, two of the largest and most prosperous countries in the world. Great industries have been built up around the vast natural resources to be found there. Mexico and the other countries of Central America and the Caribbean are still developing, and have much lower living standards.

The people of North America come from widely different backgrounds. The original peoples of the continent are the American Indians, whose ancestors were there at least 20,000 years ago. The Eskimos, who live in Alaska and northern Canada, are believed to have arrived by boat from Asia some 6,000 years ago. But most of the people are descendants of Europeans and Africans. About half of Canada's people are of British descent and a third French. Most of the early immigrants to the United States were British. Later settlers included Germans, Dutch, French, Spaniards, Italians, Poles, Russians, Scandinavians, and Irish. And Negroes, originally brought from Africa as slaves, now make up about a tenth of the population. The Caribbean islands also have large Negro populations. Most of the people of Central America are of Spanish descent.

It was the Spaniards who first encountered the native Americans, when they landed on the Central American coast nearly 500 years ago. They thought they were in India, and named the native peoples accordingly. They destroyed many of the Indian tribes, along with their highly developed cities and cultures. The Indians of Canada and the United States, the so-called 'Red Indians', were hunting peoples. They were driven out of their hunting grounds by the white settlers.

The landscapes of North America are varied and spectacular. In the west, mountain ranges extend from Alaska to Mexico, separated by valleys. The centre of the continent consists of a vast area of lowlands. The Appalachian Mountains rise to the east. There are thousands of miles of sandy beaches and rocky cliffs along the Pacific and Atlantic coasts. Much of the interior is covered with fertile green fields, but there are also huge, dry deserts. Large forests cover much of Canada, and rivers, lakes, and waterfalls abound.

The United States and Canada are among the leading industrial nations of the world. They produce about a fifth of the world's iron ore and a third of its copper. About a quarter of the world's oil and a fifth of its coal is produced in the United States. Canada and the United States also have vast areas of fertile land, and produce enough food to export large quantities, especially wheat, maize, and other cereals. The Central American countries, on the other hand, produce barely enough to feed their own people.



States of the US & Canada

AMERICAN STATES		CANADIAN PROVINCES & TERRITORIES
Map Key State	4 North Dakota	9 Alberta
46 Alabama	18 Ohio	10 British Columbia
1 Alaska	40 Oklahoma	7 Manitoba
42 Arizona	25 Oregon	3 New Brunswick
39 Arkansas	17 Pennsylvania	1 Newfoundland
26 California	13 Rhode Island	6 Ontario
29 Colorado	48 South Dakota	4 Prince Edward Island
14 Connecticut	22 South Dakota	5 Quebec
16 Delaware	38 Tennessee	8 Saskatchewan
49 Florida	43 Texas	11 Northwest Territories
47 Georgia	28 Utah	12 Yukon Territory
50 Hawaii	9 Vermont	
24 Idaho	36 Virginia	
32 Illinois	2 Washington	
19 Indiana	34 West Virginia	
21 Iowa	6 Wisconsin	
31 Kansas	23 Wyoming	
33 Kentucky		
44 Louisiana		
10 Maine		
35 Maryland		
12 Massachusetts		
7 Michigan		
5 Minnesota		
45 Mississippi		
32 Missouri		
3 Montana		
30 Nebraska		
27 Nevada		
11 New Hampshire		
15 New Jersey		
41 New Mexico		
8 New York		
37 North Carolina		

Happy birthday

Waseem Tayab will be celebrating his birthday on Friday June 9. Best wishes and many happy returns of the day from mummy, daddy, Hamid, Hunaid and uncle Shabbir.



Waseem Tayab will be celebrating his birthday on Friday June 9. Best wishes and many happy returns of the day from mummy, daddy, Hamid, Hunaid and uncle Shabbir.

Manal

With these three on the surface of your skin, all kinds of reactions may occur producing stinky odours! The odours' strength will differ with respect to when the reactions between the three natural functions occurred, to the amount of water you are drinking and the types of food you are eating (as these will affect the composition of your sweat.)

Now, if you have daily showers, the amount of bacteria on your skin is kept at bay and the amount of body oils on your skin is minimized. Also try to drink as much water as you can so your sweat is diluted and avoid spicy foods.

All in all, aim at keeping any reactions between the three components of "smelling bad" to a minimum!

Manal

Young poets

DEATH

Death! Death! Death!
What are you?
Who are you?
Where do you come from?

I know you not, but an endless sleep,
just picking up life's dream
ringing from the world above
you take away life's stream.

You love the soul very much,
and always with the loved ones you keep in touch.
why do you take away my beloved one's
when once they had done no wrong?

Death! Death! Death!
why do you come so fast
with people who always live to last
tell me, why do you come so fast?

By Shaheen S. Sheikh,
Dadar,
Bombay.

The Universal American School

KD 41 donated

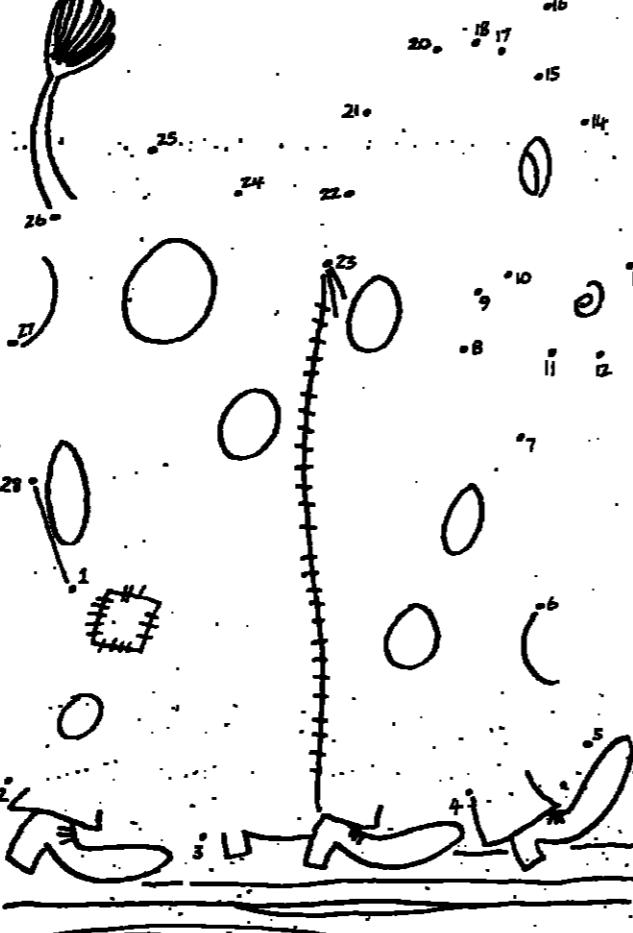
Cherref Kadri's 5th grade class at The Universal American School earned KD 41 by publishing an elementary school newspaper. The fifth grade earmarked this money to the Sudanese people in need of help.

The children wrote,

Photo by Ahmed Al Burini



Salah Al Bahar collects the money from the nine and ten year olds.

Join the dots
On Stage!

سنہرہ کو صہر تھا اور لگاڑی نیکاڑ میں دراگون ہے (آنڈی وسٹن) یا کھان کی صورت حال برائیون شاد کی لفستے وار گرے۔

قومی سوچیح علاوفت افی لفڑتوں پر غالب آہی ہے، لئی ان تصادم کی جڑوں کو اکھاڑنے کیلئے وفاقی حکومت کا مشتمل حکم ہو ناضر وی ہے



ندیو کے میر و صاحب ایم سید



طب و شیخ

اتی تیار پہلے اپنے ملماں کے تھیت پر طویل حال پر طویل سے بہتر بنانے کی کوشش کرے

ایک سال میں پچاس لاکھ سیرخون پمپ کرنے
اور چار کروڑ فسہ دھڑکتے والا دل!

۶۰ یہ فرش کر لیڈا کر پا کستان راتوں رات
اریان بن جائے گا بے محل معلوم ہوتا ہے ۶۱

Brazil to use 'exiled' players

RIO DE JANEIRO, June 7. (Reuter): Brazil will field four internationals who play abroad tomorrow when they face Portugal in a friendly soccer match at the Maracana stadium.

Coach Sebastiao Lazaroni, who has been struggling to put together the full squad he envisages will play in next month's South American Cup and the World Cup qualifying matches in August, confirmed that defenders Jose Mozer — recently transferred from Benfica of Portugal to Saint Etienne of France — Ricardo Gomes of Benfica, striker Valdo of Benfica, and midfielder Silas of Sporting Lisbon, would start the match.

Lazaroni said he also had planned to field striker Romario, but his Dutch club PSV Eindhoven refused permission.

"The Copa America (South American Cup) starts next month and I still don't know whether the players under contract in Italy will be available. That's bad," Lazaroni said.

Under his command, Brazil have won four friendlies and tied one, in Lima against Peru. So far, however, he has only been able to field the local players, whom he will call in for the friendly against Portugal on June 11.

The national team's record standing in until the rear stars come from Europe to join the team," commentator Achilles Chirio predicted.

The Portuguese, who staged a light training session at the Maracana stadium, came to Rio

Pistons win easily

Lakers lose NBA finals opener

AUBURN HILLS, Michigan, June 7. (AP): The Detroit Pistons kept one streak alive and stopped two others as they beat the Los Angeles Lakers in the opener of the National Basketball Association finals last night.

The Pistons, behind the shooting of Isiah Thomas and Joe Dumars, ended the Lakers' 16-game winning streak overall and their two-season, 13-game playoff run without a loss with a 109-97 victory.

At the same time, Detroit extended its streak of games without allowing 100 points to 16. The Lakers, averaging 113.5 while winning their first 11 postseason games this year, were 33-for-75 from the field, or 44.7 per cent.

"It's a long way from being over," Riley said. "There's a lot of basketball to be played."

Magic Johnson and James Worthy scored 17 points apiece for the Lakers, although Worthy was just 6-for-18 from the field. Michael Cooper, who replaced Scott in the starting lineup, had three points and reserve guard Tony Campbell scored 12.

Leading 55-48 at halftime, the Pistons started the second half with a 24-11 run, extending their advantage to 79-59 as Dumars and Thomas scored eight points each in the first nine minutes of the third period.

The Lakers scored the last seven points in the quarter, but the Pistons went into the final 12 minutes with a 79-66 advantage. It was the 12th sub-20 point quarter by a Pistons opponent in 14 playoff games.

Vinnie Johnson, who scored 14 of his 19 points in the fourth quarter, hit six of seven shots in the first seven minutes of the period as the Pistons rebuilt their lead to 99-81. The Lakers got no closer than 12 in the final minutes after trailing by as many as 21.

Detroit, hitting just 45.7 per cent of its field goals heading into the final, made 60 per cent in the first period for a 28-22 lead. Thomas led the way with eight points on 4-for-5 shooting.

Despite missing 11 of their first 16 shots of the second quarter, the Pistons extended the margin to 40-31 midway through the period with the help of three-point plays by Vinnie Johnson and James Edwards.

Isiah Thomas (left): scored 24 points

"It's nice to win, but we've learned from experience it takes four," Thomas said. "We have one but there are six games left. We know how hard they are going to come at us in game 2."

The second game is tomorrow night at the Palace, with the next three of the best-of-7 series at the Lakers' Forum home.

The Pistons, who earned the homecourt advantage in the playoffs with an NBA-best 63-19 regular-season record, shot 55.4 per cent from the field, including 14-for-17 in the fourth quarter.

The Lakers played without starting guard Byron Scott after he partially tore his left hamstring at practice on Monday. Scott is averaging nearly 20 points per game in the playoffs and will not play at



Isiah Thomas (left): scored 24 points

San Diego and Mercury Bay resume fight in court

NEW YORK, June 7. (Reuter): US and Canadian yacht clubs resume their fight for the America's Cup in a New York federal court, which will hear the case of yachting trophy.

The San Diego Yacht Club will argue that Justice Carmen Ciparick was wrong in ordering it last March to forfeit the trophy, while the Mercury Bay Boating Club of Auckland will say she was right to disqualify the Californians for sailing a catamaran against a monohulled boat.

At stake is the prestige of holding the trophy and the financial cost of staging the America's Cup. San Diego hoped to earn as

much as \$2 billion in revenues by hosting the next race series, now set for 1992 in New Zealand.

A panel of Justice Ciparick's

March hearing in which she interpreted the deed of gift, the document which governs the trophy, as prohibiting a mismatch such as last year's series between San Diego's speedy 60-foot (18-metre) catamaran and the huge, 132-foot (40 metre) sloop New Zealand.

Stars and Stripes, skippered by Dennis Conner, easily beat the challenger, built by New Zealand merchant-banker Michael Fay, by 2-0 in the best-of-three series off San Diego.

Fay, who had taken advantage of a loophole in the regulations to

challenge for a race in boats radically different from the traditional 12-metre yachts, sought redress in the New York court where the deed of gift is filed.

George Tompkins Jr., New Zealand's lawyer, acknowledged that the litigation was unusual.

"It's taken 102 years for a controversy over the America's Cup to get the court," he said, referring to the length of time the deed of gift has been in effect. "It will probably take another 102 years before it happens again."

Meanwhile, the US government has impounded the catamaran used by Dennis Conner in last year's America's Cup after creditors filed a suit against

the group which handled the defence of yachting's premier trophy, a US official said yesterday.

Several containers of property belonging to Sail America Foundation were seized on Monday in response to a suit filed over a debt of about \$225,000. Robert Dighera, chief deputy of the US Marshals Service, told Reuters.

"We seized a number of containers on behalf of the US government," Dighera said.

Among the containers was the disassembled Stars and Stripes.

The latest suit against Sail America, which managed the cup defence for the San Diego Yacht Club, was filed by North Sails Group, Inc., based in Milford, Connecticut.

World Cup venue

ROME, June 7. (Reuter): Turin, one of Italy's great soccer cities, will be scrapped as a venue for the 1990 World Cup finals unless it finalises arrangements for its

Gower and Border banking on pace bowlers

Seamers set to call tune in first Ashes battle



Geoff Lawson

LONDON, June 7. (Reuter): England and Australia may not rank as Test cricket's current heavyweights but rival captains David Gower and Allan Border are banking on a knockout blow from their pace bowlers when the Ashes series opens at Headingly tomorrow.

The Leeds venue for the first Test in the six-match rubber has a reputation both for giving immense help to the seamers and producing a definite result, two of the ingredients which could contribute to a fascinating opening contest.

England, with just one victory in their last 19 Tests, and Australia, who have managed only seven wins in 39 Tests under Border, know the value of a morale-boosting early success in what may develop into a close tussle.

Gower's team already deprived of their main strike bowler Graham Dilley, who is recovering from a knee operation, suffered further setbacks this week with injuries to Ian Botham and Mike Gatting.

Botham, poised for his first test appearance for 22 months, was ruled out by a checkbone fracture sustained when batting for Worcestershire in a county championship match on Monday, while Gatting gave himself only a 50-50 chance of playing after breaking a thumb in a Sunday League game.

All-rounder Botham, who missed most of last season after having major back surgery

but showed typical spirit to win an international recall last month, was said to be broken-hearted at missing the opening Test.

His presence would have added spice to the traditional sharp edge of an Ashes battle, though he had still to prove his form and fitness over a five-day match after modest early-season performances in first-class cricket.

England called up Robin Smith as cover for Gatting and drafted in Kim Barnett, essentially an opener but capable of batting lower when Botham was injured.

Botham's absence means England will almost certainly have to play their five remaining bowlers, rather than include Barnett as a sixth specialist batsman and field a four-man attack. That not only reduces their options but is risky in the event of a bowler being injured.

England's batting line-up features a comeback by opener Chris Broad, who will be a focus of attention as much for his behaviour as the innings he plays.

Broad's return to partner Graham Gooch follows a series of misdemeanours in Tests since November 1987, including refusing to walk when given out in Lahore and hitting his stumps on dismissal in Sydney.

But the Nottinghamshire batsman is determined to behave himself this summer. "I sat down over the winter and thought it through to work out what happened. I realised what a

fool I'd been, and that I had let down a lot of people," he said.

Broad relishes Australian bowling — four of his six test hundreds have been against Border's team — but this time he faces a potential match-winner in Headingley's helpful atmosphere — fast-medium bowler Terry Alderman.

Alderman is not so quick as on his previous tour in 1981 but his skillful use of swing and seam — improved during spells with Kent and Gloucestershire — is ideally suited to the Leeds ground where the cloud cover can be as significant as the state of the pitch.

The success rate of Alderman and Geoff Lawson, the most experienced fast bowler in the touring party, is likely to be crucial to Australia's prospects of regaining the Ashes held by England for the last four years.

With Geoff Marsh and Dean Jones running into form at the right time, the dependable Border at number four, and Steve Waugh's stylish batsmanship to illuminate the middle order, runs should not be Australia's problem.

But bowling England out twice in a Test may hinge on Alderman and Lawson staying fit and in form for the next three months and at least one of their fellow pacemen — Carl Rackemann, Merv Hughes or the uncapped Greg Campbell — making a vivid impact on their first England Test tour.

When Surrey resumed their second innings at 178 for seven after a long hold-up for rain only 19 overs were possible, but West Indian fast bowler Winston Davis dismissed Keith Medlycott and Martin Hickman to lift Northants' hopes.

Murphy and Frost, left to face a possible 10 overs, survived seven of them before bad light caused another two-over stoppage, and when play resumed, frost blocked out the final over from Davis.

The result left second-placed Northants two points behind Lancashire, who have played a

game more and were not involved in the current round of fixtures.

Yorkshire paceman Paul Jarvis followed his best bowling performance for three years of seven for 74 with the first half century of his career (59) to rescue his side against Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge.

Yorkshire, nine ahead on first innings, were struggling on 138 for nine before Jarvis tilted the balance with an innings which contained eight fours.

Jarvis hauled Yorkshire to 250

Lapoint and Righetti help Yankees triumph

NEW YORK, June 7. (AP):

Dave Lapoint and Dave Righetti combined for a three-hitter as the New York Yankees stopped Baltimore's eight-game winning streak, beating the Orioles 4-0 last night at Yankee stadium.

Don Mattingly and Ken Phelps each homered in the first and Mel Hall went 3-for-4 with a home run in the fifth.

In other NL games yesterday, Detroit routed Boston 5-1; Milwaukee defeated Toronto 6-4; Philadelphia whipped Pittsburgh 9-4; Atlanta shut out Los Angeles 3-0; and Houston beat San Diego 8-7 in 10 innings.

San Francisco's Mitchell leads the Major Leagues with 22 homers and 61 RBIs, and has hit seven home runs in his last six games.

The 40-year-old Reuschel, the Major-League victory leader with an 11-7 record, scattered six hits in 8 2-3 innings. Paul O'Neill singled and Joel Youngblood walked with two out in the ninth, and Craig Lefferts got his 10th save by getting Todd Benzinger to ground out.

Expos 3, Cardinals 2. Pascual Perez, making his first start since May 17, pitched six innings of five-hits ball and helped his own cause with a sacrifice fly as Montreal beat St. Louis.

Phillies 9, Pirates 4. Randy Ready and John Kruk, acquired in a trade last week, each drove in two runs in a five-run second inning rally as Philadelphia snapped an 11-game losing streak by beating Pittsburgh.

Beaves 3, Dodgers 0. Tom Glavine pitched a six-hit shutout, his third of the season, to lead Atlanta over Los Angeles.

Astros 8, Padres 7. Glenn Davis' 10th-inning single skipped off the glove of right fielder Bip Roberts, allowing Bill Doran to score from first base and lift Houston past San Diego.

Jenkins may be released

SAN DIEGO, June 7. (Reuter):

British Olympic runner David Jenkins, sentenced to seven years in prison for his role in an underground steroid smuggling ring,

could be released in the next few days to begin lecturing on drug abuse, a prosecutor said yesterday.

Assistant US attorney Philip Halpern said he supported a defence motion filed on Monday to release Jenkins on parole in 10 days away.

If US district Judge Lawrence

Irving approves the motion, Jenkins could be released "in the next few days," Halpern said. He would get credit for time already served, including some time in custody awaiting trial.

Last pair thwart Northants

Surrey hold on for draw

LONDON, June 7. (Reuter):

Northamptonshire's attempt to recapture the lead in the English County Cricket Championship was thwarted by Surrey last-wicket pair Tony Murphy and Mark Frost on the rain-hit third and final day of their match yesterday.

Unapped pair Murphy and Frost survived eight overs late in the day as Surrey, needing 250 to avoid an innings defeat, frustrated the home side at Northants by forcing a draw at 207 for nine.

When Surrey resumed their

second innings at 178 for seven after a long hold-up for rain only 19 overs were possible, but West Indian fast bowler Winston Davis dismissed Keith Medlycott and Martin Hickman to lift Northants' hopes.

Murphy and Frost, left to face a possible 10 overs, survived seven of them before bad light caused another two-over stoppage, and when play resumed, frost blocked out the final over from Davis.

The result left second-placed

Northants two points behind

Lancashire, who have played a

game more and were not involved in the current round of fixtures.

Derbyshire have fined their

fast bowler Devon Malcolm

£100 (\$156) and banned him

from their championship match

against Warwickshire starting

today following his display of dissent while batting against the Australians on Monday.

Malcolm threw down his bat

after being given out caught

behind with his side needing only

12 runs for victory. He later

apologised to the umpires.

Devon Malcolm

Paul Jarvis

for nine but rain washed away the prospect of a definite result, Notts ending on 84 for one.

Derbyshire have fined their

fast bowler Devon Malcolm £100 (\$156

SPORTS BRIEFS

Italian cycling

MEDA, Italy, June 7, (AP): Australian Phil Anderson yesterday won the 17th stage of the Italian cycling tour edging four pursuers by a few seconds at the finish line in this northern town near Milan.

Correa out

YORK, England, June 7, (AP): Colombian cyclist Leonel Correa was disqualified from the Milk Race today after failing to report for a drug test, race officials said.

Indy-car racing

DENVER, June 7, (AP): Denver City council members voted early yesterday to approve Andy Shlenker's Denver Grand Prix plan to bring Indy-car racing to downtown Denver.

US Open

ROCHESTER, New York, June 7, (AP): An anti-apartheid group will picket at the US Open golf tournament next week, but has no plans to disrupt play, organisers said yesterday.

Milk Race

HARROGATE, England, June 7, (AP): Tony Doyle of Britain rode through a protest to win the 79-mile (127-kilometre) eighth stage of the cycling Milk Race yesterday.

Drug-testing

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., June 7, (Reuter): The US Olympic Committee said yesterday it hoped to begin enforcing a joint drug-testing agreement reached with the Soviet Union by as early as August.

Ben Johnson

MILAN, Italy, June 7, (AP): Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson, disciplined for drug use, says he is training for a comeback on the tracks next year and has his eye on the 1992 Olympics.

Iraqi coach

ABU DHABI, June 7, (Reuter): The sacked coach of Iraq's national soccer team has been given a contract with a United Arab Emirates club, sports officials in the UAE said today.

Life ban

GENEVA, June 7, (Reuter): Two Yugoslavs banned for life from all European Football Union (UEFA) competitions for assaulting a referee during an international club tournament had their appeals rejected yesterday. A UEFA appeals board hearing confirmed the life suspension imposed on Radu Gherghel, players Dusko Vlajkovic and Dragan Babic.

Tennis tourney

BECKENHAM, English, June 7, (AP): Torrential rain forced the second day's play in the men's singles of the Beckenham grass-court tennis tournament yesterday to be called off without a ball being struck. Spectators were hoping to see top-seeded John McEnroe play a second-round match against West Germany's Peter Baum.

Nashwan wins Epsom Derby

EPSOM, England, June 7, (Reuter): Nashwan, the 5-4 favourite owned by Hamdan Al Maktoum, scored a resounding victory in the 210th Epsom Derby today, pulling effortlessly clear in the finishing straight to triumph by five lengths.

Jockey Willie Carson always had the colt handily placed and when they made their move after the 12-horse field swept round Tattenham corner, with four furlongs (800 metres) to go, there was no catching them.

The battle behind them produced an improbable second, Terimon, whose odds of 500-1 were the longest ever for a horse finishing in the first three of English racing's premier classic. Cacoethes was third at 3-1.

Steroid abuse could lead to homicide

MONTE CARLO, June 7, (Reuter): Psychiatric disturbances, leading in some cases to homicide, could be sparked by abuse of anabolic steroids, an American researcher said yesterday.

On the second day of an international symposium on drugs in sport, Dr David Katz said the use of muscle-building steroids was increasingly prevalent among young people throughout the world. Steroids are banned by the International Olympic Committee.

"Anabolic steroids are virtually mandatory for bodybuilding and for certain posi-

tions in (American) professional and college football," Katz said.

"Psychiatric disorders may well be the most prevalent as well as the most serious side-effects of anabolic steroids."

Katz caused a stir among delegates with pictures of dramatic muscle development among bodybuilders and examples of mental disorders which he said could be a result of steroid use.

He said a study by himself and a colleague of 41 steroid users showed five had displayed psychotic symptoms. Four had experienced delusions and one had suffered hallucina-

tions.

All these symptoms had passed quickly once the subjects stopped taking steroids.

Katz then detailed a case history in which a male bodybuilder had bought a car for \$25 and driven it into a tree at 35 mph (56 kph) while a friend recorded the incident on a video-camera.

"He said he felt invincible," Katz commented.

He also told delegates of a man taking high dosages of steroids who had beaten a hitch-hiker to death.

NBK to organise water ski tourney

THE National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) will organise the first Kuwait Water Ski and Surfing Championship at the Kheiran Resort on June 15 and 16, a spokesman for the bank announced yesterday.

The championship will be patronised by the Ahmad Governor Sheikh Ali Al Sabah.

The championship will include four events—slalom, skier, kneeboard and tricks. The chairman of the organising committee, Ibrahim Al Hadhoud, said that the championship is being held to promote water sports in Kuwait. He added that the sport had a large following in this country.

Al Hadhoud also pointed out that Kuwait lagged behind other Gulf areas in the promotion of water sports. He gave the example of the United Arab Emirates, which held its 10th Water Surfing Championship recently.

The deputy chairman of the organising committee, Khalid Al Bisher, said that the qualifying rounds would be held on June 15 with the finals on the following day. He added that a number of good



One of the water skiers in action.



Al Hadhoud
prizes in store for the winners in various events. He said that the details of the prizes would be announced later.

Hassan Mansour, a representative of the Marine Centre, one of the organisers, hoped that the success of this

Chang outlasts Agenor

17-year-old reaches French Open semifinal



West German Steffi Graf and Sweden's Mats Wilander (left) pose with trophies they received last night as the best tennis players of 1988. The trophies were presented by the International Tennis Federation in Paris. (Reuter wirephoto)

possible upset, leading Chang 3-1 in the third set after tying the match, when the players were forced off court by rain.

When they resumed just under an hour later, Chang won five straight games to take the set as Agenor netted a stream of

approach shots, especially on the backhand.

Yesterday Boris Becker and Stefan Edberg, two masters of fast court tennis, set up a semifinal meeting on the slow clay of Roland Garros with quick quarterfinal victories.

Becker and Edberg, seeded second and third, are both enjoying the best seasons of their careers on clay.

West German Becker, who came from match point against him to beat Argentine clay specialist Guillermo Perez-Roldan in five sets in the fourth round, has won his last nine matches on the surface and has lost only twice in 17 matches this year.

Becker and Edberg, seeded second and third, are both enjoying the best seasons of their careers on clay.

Leonard to earn \$25 million

LAS VEGAS, June 7, (AP): By

the time Sugar Ray Leonard leaves the ring Monday night, he will have earned at least \$25 million for two fights against Thomas Hearns.

Hearns won't have done too badly himself, amassing at least \$16 million for two bouts spaced nearly eight years apart.

Fight fans, meanwhile, will have paid more than \$100 million to watch the two do battle, and in the process ushered in a new era

of megafights.

"People pay for who they want to see," said Leonard. "Look at how much Michael Jackson makes. They pay to see him like they pay to see us."

When Leonard and Hearns met Sept. 16, 1981, for the world welterweight championship, they broke all records up to that point in a fight that grossed nearly \$35 million.

When they meet again Monday night, it will more than likely

set a new boxing record, with promoters predicting a gross of \$80 million for the scheduled 12-round bout.

"You've got two of the most recognised names in boxing and these fighters appeal to a lot more than just the hardcore fight fans," said Rick Kells, whose Choice Entertainment has the southern California broadcast rights to the bout. "This should be bigger than Tyson-Spinks."

Manager Bobby Robson said yesterday: "Bryan Robson offered Peter the captaincy but he wants to treat it as a normal international. It was a nice gesture but Peter says he wants to concentrate on keeping a clean sheet."

Shilton turns down captaincy

LONDON, June 7, (Reuter): Goalkeeper Peter Shilton turned down the chance of captaining England on his record 109th appearance for his country in Copenhagen today.

Manager Bobby Robson said yesterday: "Bryan Robson offered Peter the captaincy but he wants to treat it as a normal international. It was a nice gesture but Peter says he wants to concentrate on keeping a clean sheet."

In April, Budd married a liquor store owner in her home town of Bloemfontein. She expressed interest in returning to Britain to resume international competition, but today said she had decided otherwise.

"I do not feel I can return to England without some regular and open contact with the native soil of the land of my birth," she said.

"I wish to thank all the British people who gave me their support. For those

Barnard to decide motor racing future this month

MILAN, Italy, June 7, (Reuter): British designer John Barnard, whose contract with Ferrari is due to expire at the end of the season, has said he will decide this month where his future lies.

He said he would announce by the end of June whether he would renew his contract with Ferrari, where he has spent three years marked by widespread criticism and little success, or move on to work elsewhere.

"There could be projects in the future outside Formula One," he told the Italian sports newspaper Gazzetta dello Sport in an interview published today. "I would like to undertake any technically valid project but I do think there are still things I would like to try in Formula One."

Barnard said he had received several job offers after his contract with Ferrari expired at the end of the season.

"I would be disappointed (to go) but I believe I could be satisfied just having been part of the future development of a team," he said. "(I will) decide by the end of the month, partly because so many other things depend on my answer."

When Ferrari signed Barnard in 1986 from McLaren the team had not won a world title since 1979 and hoped the new designer could repeat the success he had produced for his previous employers.

After more than two years' work for Barnard and his team, Ferrari finally unveiled its new 12-cylinder 640 car last February but it has been plagued by technical problems.

The car has finished only twice out of 10 possible finishes — when Briton Nigel Mansell won in Rio de Janeiro in March and when Austrian Gerhard Berger came 22nd in Mexico.

Barnard, who works from a base in Britain, blamed the Ferrari team's failure to challenge the supremacy of the McLaren team on inexperience amongst its junior technicians.

"I haven't seen as many young engineers with strong potential emerging as I would have liked," he told the Milan-based Gazzetta.

LOCAL CRICKET

Pirelli beat Morning Star in opener

PIRELLI opened their Summer League season with a nine-run victory over Morning Star Cricket Club at the Sabah Al Salam (NC) ground earlier this week.

Pirelli skipper Shabbir elected to bat after winning the toss. Arshad Munir and Badar Mumir opened the innings for Pirelli and put on 57 runs before the former was out for 25.

Badar was back in the pavilion

one later, also for 25. Ghulam Haider hammered all the Morning Star bowlers and scored 52 in only nine overs. He also hit five fours. Aslam Pervez hit 22 while Shabbir remained unbeaten on 22 as Pirelli scored 159 for the loss of five wickets in their 18 allotted overs.

Morning Star tried to reach the target but fell nine runs short as they scored 150 by the end of their overs. Shabzad Sir took two wickets while Rashid Ansari got one.

Skins game

MYRTLE BEACH, South Carolina, June 7, (AP): Ayako Okamoto, the LPGA Player of the Year in 1987, will play three Skins game matches on area courses next week.

The matches will be taped and shown on national television in Japan.

The matches — Monday at Arcadian shores, Tuesday at Myrtle Beach National and Wednesday at the Dunes Club — will be free to the public.

Budd will stay in South Africa, not return to Britain

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, June 7, (AP): Zola Budd, whose career as a world-class distance runner has been dogged by political controversy, announced today that she will not return to Britain to seek further international competition because of its racial segregation policies.

Anti-apartheid groups pursued Budd relentlessly over the next four years, saying she should not be allowed to compete internationally because she maintained

ties with South Africa and returned frequently to visit friends and family. She repeatedly declined to denounce apartheid, saying she did not want to engage in political debate, although last year she issued a statement expressing opposition to any form of discrimination.

In May 1988, she left Britain and returned to South Africa. Associates described her as an emotional and physical wreck, on the verge of a nervous breakdown.

In April, Budd married a liquor store owner in her home town of Bloemfontein. She expressed interest in returning to Britain to resume international competition, but today said she had decided otherwise.

She said her husband, Mike Pieterse, had given her encouragement, but that her decision was her own.

"I have taken control of my life," she said, "and in the future will seek to run on my own terms in accordance with factors which do not conflict with my personal beliefs or convictions."

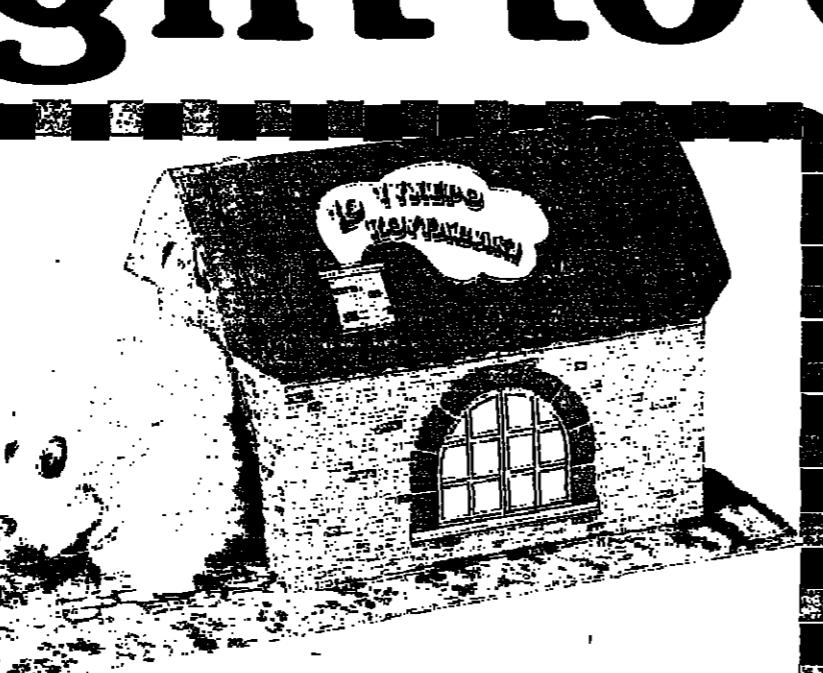
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